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CONTENTS

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Leader Comments on UN Session (Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh Interview; AL-SIYASAH, 16 Aug 80)	1
Briefs	
Information Ministries Meetings	5
Increase in Shipping Insurance	5
Shipbuilding Company's Progress	5

AFGHANISTAN

Karnal Reportedly Loses Revolution Council Chairmanship (NAWA-I-WAQT, 19 Aug 80)	6
Possible Mujahid-Khalq Alliance Suggested (MASHRIQ, 8 Aug 80)	8
Writers' Union To Propagate Saur Revolution (KABUL NEW TIMES, 6 Oct 80)	9
Government Invests in Shoe Factory (KABUL NEW TIMES, 6 Oct 80)	11
Youth Festival Held To Honor Revolution (KABUL NEW TIMES, 30 Sep 80)	13
Craft Unions Established for Workers (KABUL NEW TIMES, 5 Oct 80)	16
Briefs	
Government Acknowledges Mujahidin Success	18
Karnal Executes 200 Mujahidin	18
Clergymen Express Solidarity	18
Deputy Minister to Mongolia	18

ALGERIA

1980-1984 Five-Year Plan Studied (EL MOUDJAHID, 25, 26 Aug 80)	19
Committees To Begin Work Wilaya Studies Development Plans	
Country-Wide Joint Meetings of Kasmas-APC (A. Belkhodja; EL MOUDJAHID, 17 Aug 80)	21
Wilaya Transportation Enterprise Set Up (EL MOUDJAHID, 12 Aug 80)	25
Easing of Property Acquisition Regulations (EL MOUDJAHID, 17 Aug 80)	28
Briefs Sonatrach Party Cell Installed	31

IRAN

Plot To Seize Soviet Embassy Foiled; Army, Internal Opposition Discussed (David Bishay; AL-HAWADITH, 25 Jul 80)	32
Internal Struggle for Power, Bakhtiar's Chances To Return Discussed (AL-HAWADITH, 1 Aug 80)	37
Downfall of Khomeyni's Regime Said To Be Imminent, Alternatives Discussed (AL-HAWADITH, 8 Aug 80)	43
KDP Central Committee Member on Fighting in Kordestan (NAME-YE RUZ, 1 Sep 80)	47

ISRAEL

Religious Movement Seen Gaining in Next Election (HATZOFEH, 7 Sep 80)	51
Briefs Poll on Begin	53
Kibbutz Opinion on Golan	53
Natural Gas	53
1979 Productivity Rise	53

LEBANON

Islamic Council Chairman Interviewed on Various Issues (Shafiq al-Wazzan Interview; AL-HADAF, 10 Jul 80)	55
Lebanese Front's Television Discussed (AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI, 4-10 Aug 80)	60
Economic Conditions Said To Be Deteriorating (AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI, 11-17 Aug 80)	62
New Head of Maronite Order Elected (AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI, 4-10 Aug 80)	66

LIBYA

Theory Behind Revolutionary Committees Explained (Ahmad Ibrahim; AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHIDAR, 21 Jul 80)	68
--	----

MAURITANIA

Violation of Haratine's Civil Rights Alleged (LE MONDE, 7, 8 Sep 80)	76
---	----

MOROCCO

Threat to USFP Seen As Exemplifying Official Attitude (Editorial; LIBERATION, 4 Jul 80)	78
Auto, Naval Shipyard Strikes Continue (AL-BAYANE, 9 Jul 80; L'AVANT-GARDE, 5 Jul 80)	82
Auto Workers Naval Shipyard Workers	
Fuel Price Increases Condemned by UMT (L'AVANT-GARDE, 5 Jul 80)	83
Export Figures Show Satisfying Increase (LA VIE ECONOMIQUE, 4 Jul 80)	85
King Visits Safi Phosphates, Uranium Extraction Plants (MAROC SOIR, 1 Jul 80)	86

SUDAN

Government Welcomes Almost Half Million Refugees (Jean-Pierre Langelier; LE MONDE, 11 Jul 80)	87
---	----

TUNISIA

President of National Assembly Gives Dinner in Honor of Simone Veil (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 7 Sep 80)	90
Remarks by Mokaddem Remarks by Veil	
Committees Meet To Formulate Sixth Plan (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 18 Sep 80)	95
Remarks by Mokaddem in East Berlin (Sadok Mokaddem; LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 18 Sep 80)	97
Bourguiba's Service to Islam Praised (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 5 Aug 80)	99
Tunisian Youth Urged To Acquire Responsibilities (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 5 Aug 80)	101

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Briefs Chicken Farm Contract	104
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YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Briefs Printing House Project	105
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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO LEADER COMMENTS ON UN SESSION

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 Aug 80 p 13

[Interview with PLO executive committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, by Manar Baras, in Beirut; date not given]

[Text] Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the Executive Committee of the PLO in charge of the information department, declared that implementation of the recent UN resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from the Arab lands occupied after 1967 requires a modification in the balance of power in the region, which would force the Zionist enemy and American imperialism to yield to the demands of our people and their just rights. He disclosed messages sent by the United States to the leaders of the European states calling on them to vote against the resolution.

Commenting on the position of the states which voted against this resolution or abstained from voting, 'Abd-Rabbuh said that the PLO is conducting a widespread diplomatic campaign to deal with the positions of states hostile to the Palestinian cause and Arab questions.

He said that the PLO will present a complete plan to the first Arab meeting for the purpose of taking tangible steps toward an economic and oil boycott and withdrawal of Arab capital from American banks. He said that these sanctions would cover other nations with positions hostile to the Arab cause.

'Abd Rabbuh called on all Arab states to take a stand opposing by action, not by word, the step to annex Jerusalem to Israel, which supplements the "conspiratorial Camp David plan."

The following is the text of the interview conducted with 'Abd Rabbuh immediately after he returned from New York after he participated in the Palestinian delegation to the UN General Assembly session which discussed the Palestinian question.

[Question] What is your evaluation of the resolutions which were issued by the UN General Assembly about Palestine, and what can result from these resolutions, from your point of view?

[Answer] The recent resolution by the emergency session of the United Nations is considered more advanced than the previous resolutions, since it calls unequivocally for Israel's withdrawal from occupied Arab and Palestinian territory, without conditions or restrictions, sets a deadline for this withdrawal, calls for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, and guarantees the right of the refugees to return to their nation.

The resolution considers that the United Nations should demand follow-up of implementation, and, for the first time, deems it necessary to apply the sanctions included in the United Nations Charter against Israel, if it does not comply with this resolution. Also, this emergency session remains open and can be convened in the future if the need arises.

We have absolutely no illusions that Israel and its American protectors will comply with this resolution, but the resolution does indicate the isolation in which Israel and the parties to Camp David have been placed, since 112 states voted for the resolution, the highest percentage of votes cast for any Palestinian resolution.

The resolution proves that in spite of the strong pressure which the United States has applied to other international blocs, especially Latin America, Africa and Asia, could not achieve any success in forcing these blocs to vote against the resolution or even abstain from voting.

Only a handful of client states on these three continents, such as Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Liberia and Burma, support the American position. The rest of the states belonging to the OAU and the nonaligned states voted in support of this resolution. Although the United States sent personal messages to the leaders of the West European states calling on them to vote against the resolution, it did not achieve complete success with the exception of Norway, which bowed in abject fashion to American pressure and was among the seven states which voted against the resolution. However, the West European position of abstaining from voting reveals the truth about claims that there would be a positive new European initiative before the United Nations session is convened, and proves that the nations of Western Europe continue to be subject to the blackmail of America and to provide a cover for Zionist expansion against our Palestinian people and our Arab nation. The states of Western Europe justified their position at the United Nations by claiming that the resolution is imbalanced, because it does not provide for the right of all states of the region to live within secure and recognized borders. This alleged imbalance is an obvious excuse, since Western Europe has thus far refused to accept, in return [for balance], recognition of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and the right of our people to establish their independent state on their land. They are content to use obscure phrases such as "right to self-determination."

Put in another way, Western Europe grants all of the clearly defined and detailed demands presented by Israel and America, while refusing to accede to the demands of the Palestinian people and the Arabs in general.

The session was an effective test of this European position, and it dispelled Arab illusions about it. The session and the final resolution confirmed that the vast majority of the states of the world refuse to consider Camp David as a sound basis for a just solution, especially with respect to the question of Palestine.

In light of this resolution, the PLO senses the complete and worldwide support of the socialist states, the nonaligned states, the Islamic states and some other friendly nations. The PLO leadership is now studying the necessity of pursuing the political campaign to develop the historic results of this resolution. From another angle, we will carry out a widespread diplomatic campaign to deal with the hostile positions taken by some states, such as Norway, and with the negative positions of the states of Western Europe and Japan, which abstained from the voting.

Sanctions

'Abd Rabbuh added: "As for the mastermind of this conspiracy, the United States, we will submit to an 'Arab meeting' a complete plan to take tangible steps toward an economic and oil boycott, withdrawal of capital from American banks, and action to further isolate and unmask U.S. policy.

These sanctions must cover nations which have hostile positions, be they those which voted against the resolution or those which maintained their embassies in occupied Jerusalem, such as Norway and Holland.

As we know full well, implementation of this resolution depends upon achievement of a balance of power in the area which would force the Zionist enemy and American imperialism to submit to Palestinian and Arab demands. However, in spite of bad Arab conditions, which hinder the adoption of a resolute policy against the United States, Israel and the Sadat regime, we will pursue our work on the international level, especially to demand implementation of the resolution concerning sanctions and economic and political boycott of Israel because of its refusal to implement this resolution.

We emphasize here the responsibility of the Arab states to do everything in their power to enforce these sanctions and obtain wider international support for this position.

Annexing Jerusalem to Israel

[Question] What do you think of the Zionist Knesset stating that the Arab city of Jerusalem is considered the capital of the state of occupation?

[Answer] This step comes under the umbrella and protection of the Camp David agreements and within the policy of imposing the fait accompli which Israel, with U.S. support, is trying to implement. This dangerous step makes it incumbent upon all Arab states to take a position opposing this American-Israeli conspiracy in action, not just words.

Without a policy opposing American interests and influence in the area, there is no value in any declarations of disapproval issued by this or that nation.

Following the Zionist resolution in the Knesset, we decided to call immediately for a meeting of the Security Council and of the Committee to Save Jerusalem. We are also thinking of inviting the Arab foreign ministers to an emergency meeting to discuss methods of confronting the steps of the Zionists and their American protectors.

7587

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

INFORMATION MINISTRIES MEETINGS--Three days meetings are planned for next Sunday in Doha for the liaison officers and representatives of the Information Ministries of the Arab Gulf States. These meetings will prepare the agenda for the Sixth Conference of the Information Ministers which will be held in Muscat in January 1981, and will insure the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Fifth Conference which was held in Doha from 9-14 February 1980. Abd-al-Wahab al-Radwan, Director of the Cultural Department of the Ministry of Information and Culture will represent the United Arab Emirates in these meetings. [Text] [Sharjah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 3 Oct 80 p 2]

INCREASE IN SHIPPING INSURANCE--Sources of the national Insurance Companies reported that Lloyd's Insurance Co. has increased its premiums by 1% on ships heading towards the Gulf area. The sources further asserted that the increase in insurance premiums covers the ships' structures and engines. However, products destined to ports in the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait, were exempted from this increase except that insurance on products destined to Iraq and Iran ports increased by one half percent. Moreover, these sources added that this increase will be reflected, one way or another, on prices and Lloyd's has decided to review these percentages weekly based on the size and direction of the war operations between Iraq and Iran and this will in turn affect whether percentages will be increased, decreased or stabilized. AL-KHALIJ also learned that the ship "Al-Riyad," which is owned by the Arab Maritime Transport Co. was seriously damaged while docked in al-Basrah port in Iraq, and was towed to the dry dock in Bahrain for repairs. [Text] [Sharjah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 Oct 80 p 1]

SHIPBUILDING COMPANY'S PROGRESS--The Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company met on 23 September 1980, the third anniversary of the beginning of its operations, and invited the press and other information media representatives to tour its facilities and acquaint themselves with its operations. A. J. Machado Luis, director general of the company, said that the company had performed maintenance and advanced repair operations on 327 tankers of various sizes, mainly supertankers, under various flags in the dry dock, at its piers, and in place at anchor. He said that the paid capital of the company is 340 million U.S. dollars. At the end of August 1980, 54 percent of the company's 1,285 minor officials and 50 percent of its administrators were Arabs. Up till the present time, the company has trained 710 of its minor officials and sent 140 of them abroad for operational experience, and is now instructing 51 persons in various vocations in its training center. [Excerpts] [Manama AL-MAWAQIF in Arabic 29 Sep 80 pp 6, 7]

KARMAL REPORTEDLY LOSES REVOLUTION COUNCIL CHAIRMANSHIP

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 19 Aug 80 p 3

[News report: "Babrak Karmal Removed from Chairmanship of Revolution Council; He is also Prevented from Attending Council Meetings; Two Opponents Promoted to Important Posts in his Absence"]

[Text] New Delhi, 18 August (Reuter)--The meeting of the Revolution Council and the Politbureau, in which decisions were made to promote two members of the faction opposed to Babrak Karmal, was not attended by Karmal himself. Although Karmal is head of not only the government, but also of the party and the Revolution Council, no mention was made of his participation in the meeting in announcements broadcast over Radio Kabul and heard in New Delhi.

Among the new appointments made, Mr Abdorrashid Arian, who was minister of justice and attorney general, and belongs to the rival group, has been appointed deputy prime minister, and Saleh Mohammed, former minister of agriculture and health, and a member of the Politbureau, has been appointed chairman of the Revolution Council, a post which was formerly held by Babrak Karmal himself.

According to reliable sources, both appointments have been made with the purpose of ending differences between the opposing factions, Khalq and Parcham. Since 80% of the army officers belong to the Khalq faction, there is deep resentment and rebellion in the army over the anti-Khalq actions of the ruling party. This has gotten Russia worried.

Therefore, it is speculated that these two leaders of the Khalq faction have been promoted at the suggestion of the Russian advisors.

According to analysts and commentators, the fact that President Karmal did not attend the meeting has deeper significance. Some commentators have said that Karmal was not allowed to attend the meeting, and that these decisions were made in his absence.

Meanwhile, Radio Kabul broadcast an official announcement last night, in which it said that Deputy Prime Minister Asadullah Sarwari has been

appointed Afghanistan's ambassador to Mongolia. At the beginning of this year Mr Sarwari had gone abroad for medical treatment. According to the announcement, he is already in the capital of Mongolia. Mr Sarwari is between 30 and 40 years of age. He is the leader of the Khalq faction, rival of Babrak Karmal's Parcham faction. Mr Sarwari had become notorious for his cruel, atrocious acts during the administration of the former President, Mr Taraki. People used to call him "King Kong" and "butcher."

9612

CSO: 4203

POSSIBLE MUJAHID-KHALQ ALLIANCE SUGGESTED

Lahore MASHRIQ in Urdu 8 Aug 80 p 9

[News report: "Babrak Karmal Has Exiled Several Ministers and Generals of the Opposite Parcham Party; Those Sent to Moscow Include Watan Yar, Gen Dagarwal and Gulab Zai"]

[Text] Islamabad, 7 Aug--According to Radio Kabul and the NEW TIMES, the official newspaper of the Afghan government, fighting between the ruling Parcham Khalq faction of Babrak Karmal and the faction in opposition, Kha Khalq, has reached its climax. The Karmal regime has exiled to Moscow several ministers, generals and other high officials belonging to the opposition Khalq Party. These include Aslam Watan Yar, Abdurrashid Arian, Asadullah Sarwari, Dr Shah Wali, Dr Saleh Mohammed Zairi, Gen Abdul Qadir Dagarwal and Gulab Zai. Positions vacated by these persons have been given to members of the Parcham faction, which is now in total control of the government.

After eliminating the Khalq faction, seven leaders of Babrak Karmal's ruling Parcham faction have assumed control of administrative affairs. These seven are: Nun Ahmad Nur, Nur Wakil, Dr Inayat Ratibzad, Mahmud Barali, Sultan Ali Khishtmand, Bij Habib and Bij Rafi. All these had been accused of being traitors by former President Hafizullah Amin, and had been made targets of severe reprisals. After Babrak Karmal came to power, Khalq leaders supported his regime. But they later opposed the government of the question of Russian intervention in Afghanistan. Now, the Khalq faction has gained influence in the rural areas. This has led to speculation that the Khalq faction and the mujahidin will cooperate with each other to bring about the downfall of the Karmal regime and to oust the Russian army. Such a speculation has been confirmed by one mujahid leader, Prof Sayaf Gul.

9612

CSO: 4203

WRITERS' UNION TO PROPAGATE SAUR REVOLUTION

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 6 Oct 80 p 2

[Text] One of the long cherished aspirations of the writers and poets was finally fulfilled with the convening of the Founding Congress of Union of Workers and poets of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Held in a very grand ceremony the meeting of Founding Congress of the Union of Writers and poets was unprecedented in the history of Afghanistan. It was in fact another step taken forward to organise the different sections of the people of Afghanistan under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the vanguard of the working class in the country.

The establishment of the Union of Writers and Poets which took place with all enthusiasm and interest showed the full preparedness of the writers and poets to form a strong and fiercing force and to stand behind the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan to defend its progressive ideas and programmes and safeguard the gains of Saur Revolution at a time when the entire nation has risen up to fight the sinister vistas of the past feudal order and the remains of the corruption which was prevailing during the reign of oppressive rulers.

In the message of greeting which was sent to the Founding Congress of the Union of Writers and Poets of Afghanistan by the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan it is said: "At this sensitive stage of the second phase of Saur Revolution when the party has directed all forces towards the full annihilation of counter-revolution and the aggressive armed bands--these hirelings of imperialism and hegemonism the homeland expects its writers and poets to create such works which would arouse the sense of hatred of the people against the enemies and strengthen their belief in the performance of this sacred task and praise the heroism and gallantry of the prideful defenders of the people."

In this way we may say that the writers and poets roles have become more important and assumed a new colour and turn.

Like other revolutionary elements the writers and poets have to arouse the sense of hatred and hostility against the enemies of the revolution and the people of Afghanistan.

They have to defend and revive the heroism displayed by the defenders of the interests of the working class, the workers, peasants and toilers.

At this time when the party and DRA government with the support of the people have sent out their forces to wipe out the counter-revolutionaries despatched to Afghanistan by the US imperialism in collusion with the Chinese hegemonists the writers and poets have to wage a fierce battle against the enemies of the progressive regime in Afghanistan through their progressive ideas which have to be expressed by their strong pens and sharp minds.

The contributions of writers and poets are very important because they mobilize the minds and hearts of the nation towards the building of the new society, a society free of exploitation of man by man, and a society where everyone will receive his own share according to his work and expected to produce according to his ability.

The establishment of the Union of Writers and Poets gave legal recognition to the status and stand of writers and poets in the Afghan society. With this move the ground is prepared for our writers and poets to come into contact with their colleagues in other countries of the world.

It is now the duty of the Union of Writers and Poets of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to seek means and ways to consolidate its relations and friendly ties with the Unions of writers and poets and other progressive organisations in the world and exchange views and experiences with the object to expedite the pace of movement towards the building of the new society.

No doubt the Union of Writers and Poets has made our progressive elements, writers, poets and intelligentsia take their pens and serve the interests of the working people and enrich the progressive cultural wealths of different nationalities living in Afghanistan.

Now that our writers have been provided with ample opportunity it is hoped that they produce valuable works in every area of social political, economic and cultural fields and help the vast masses of our land take active part in the development efforts and progressive plans undertaken by the party and government and feed our newspapers, periodicals, radio and television with their highly needed articles and progressive materials. We are sure that with the great sense of service that our writers are endowed with they will prove very fruitful in nation buildup and defence of the gains of revolution.

CSO: 4920

GOVERNMENT INVESTS IN SHOE FACTORY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 6 Oct 80 p 3

[Excerpt] "The Afs. 60,000,000 Government assistance extended to the Watan Plastic Shoe Factory through banking credits is one of the most significant, useful and timely measures taken by our revolutionary government towards protecting, promoting and guiding the private industrial sector. This timely aid of the revolutionary government has been widely welcomed by the national traders, patriotic workers and toilers of our beloved country."

In an interview with the reporter of Kabul New Times while elaborating on the government aid, the President of Watan Plastic Shoe Factory said: The government has undertaken long-term effective plans for protection, promotion, and guidance of private industries, aiming at further expansion and improving the quality of goods and finding market for consumer commodities produced by this sector of national economy as well as removing their financial difficulties through the related banks. The extension of the sixty-million afghanis assistance through opening of letter of credit in the name of the Watan Plastic Shoe Factory is indicative of the government's earnest desire for the expansion of industrial sector and promotion of private investment.

He added that the objective behind granting afs. sixty-million credit to this factory was to facilitate the import of raw materials from abroad and to meet the requirements of the factory. As usual the factory pays in advance 25 percent of the total cost of material imported and the remaining 75 percent is paid when the raw materials reach Kabul. Sometimes it happens that though the imported materials reaches Kabul, the factory due to financial difficulties cannot pay the cost. Of course, the services and assistance rendered by the Pashtany Tejaraty Bank and the Export Promotion Bank in solving our financial and banking problems are worth of every appreciation.

The assistance, he added, rendered by these banks is not in cash. The banks extend loan to the factory and the loans are payable after the materials or goods arrive in Kabul Custom House. So far the services of the said banks have been very useful in smooth flow of materials needed by the factory.

As to the production capacity and the present capital of the factory, the President of the Watan Plastic Factory said: The Watan Plastic Shoe Factory which came into existence under DRA Private Investment Promotion Law and was registered by the Planning Affairs Ministry as a joint-stock company with an initial capital of twenty-million afghanis has played a significant role in the further growth of national economy and has been of valuable service to the compatriots. The factory at present functions with a capital of thirty-five million afghanis.

He further added: The maximum production capacity of the factory in one shift daily is 12,000 pairs of footwears, but unfortunately, during the despotic and oppressive reign of hangman Amin, the factory stopped production for one year and fortunately with the victorious uprising of the evolutionary phase of the glorious Saur Revolution which prepared the ground for reactivation and normalisation of national trade our factory resumed operation.

At present as a result of the government's assistance the factory produces 7,000 pairs of different kinds of men's, women's and children footwears.

As far as the equipment, machinery, and personnel employed at the factory, he said: The factory employs over 120 persons including technical and administrative personnel in its various sections and the work performed by them is appreciated by the management. The factory operates more than 20 different kinds of machines.

The president of the factory further added: The production of this factory can compete well with similar local and foreign products and that our products are greatly demanded by the compatriots in the capital as well as in the provinces. The setting up of branches sales stores of our factory in centre and provinces is indicative of great demand for our products throughout the country.

Regarding the timely assistance of the revolutionary government toward the further growth and development of national industry particularly the facility provided to the Watan Plastic Shoe Factory, he said: In the first step the Industrial Development Bank functioning in the framework of Finance Ministry is duty-bound to render any assistance to the private investors to help them in solving their financial problems. We haven't yet presented any official request to the said bank pertaining the bank's financial assistance to the factory, but if we feel any need to do so, we are sure the bank will promptly come to our aid.

CSO: 4920

YOUTH FESTIVAL HELD TO HONOR REVOLUTION

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 30 Sep 80 p 2

[Text]

Jashn-i-Jawanan or Youth Festival which was held here was another event in the history of Afghanistan. Featured by artistic, sport and cultural programmes the Youth Festival was highly celebrated in grand ceremonies. These ceremonies were attended by party members, representatives of national and international youth organisations who had attended the all conference of the Democratic Organisation for Afghan Youth, and large crowds of the noble and heroic people of Afghanistan.

Never before there has happened any such event in the history of Afghanistan. It is an indicative of the great importance which the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan attaches to the role and the activities of youth in taking part in development efforts of the country.

In the happy and delightful and grand solidarity meeting which was held on the occasion of Youth Festival the heads of the national and international youth organisations delegation once again expressed their militant support for the Saur Revolution and the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the patriotic and progressive youth of Afghanistan organised under the banner of the Democratic Organisation for Afghan Youth.

On behalf of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and DRA Government Sultan Ali Keshtmand Vice-President of RC and Deputy Prime Minister described the occasion as a new age, an age of youth, for revolution of Afghanistan and called the all-conference of the Democratic Organisation for Afghan Youth as an important event.

ent in the social and political life of Afghanistan and wished the solidarity grand meeting of the world democratic youth with the Afghan Youth every success in maintaining peace, ensuring democracy and Social Justice.

It is a matter of great delight to note that the Youth Festival was also marked by solidarity meetings held in various organisations in the Kabul city. In these meetings the youth and noble people of Afghanistan expressed their full support for the Saur Revolution and appreciated the solidarity expressed by the national and international democratic youth organisation delegations with the Afghan youth. The participants of these grand solidarity meetings and functions declared their readiness to fight the enemies of Saur Revolution and safeguard its gains in the interest of the working people.

These functions and meetings are indicative of the fact that the Saur Revolution is a turning point in the life of the suffering and oppressed large masses of the people of Afghanistan. The revolution, no doubt, consolidated the rule of the toilers and labourers who produce all the moral and material wealth of this land.

The young men and women of revolutionary Afghanistan have without any doubt great role in translating into action the lofty aspirations of the Saur Revolution and the useful and fruitful social, economic, cultural and political programmes undertaken by the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the DRA Government during the second phase of glorious Saur Revolution.

With the high value and significance attached by the PDPA, DRA government and the entire people of the country and the full solidarity expressed by the representatives of the democratic youth organisations of the world the position of our progressive and patriotic youth has been further strengthened and consolidated. The people of Afghanistan are very much appreciative of the activities of the young men and women carried in toppling the tower of oppressive ruling classes and of the great support they have been giving to the progressive moves made by their revolutionary regime in Afghanistan.

During the last two and half years since the victory of the great Saur Revolution and especial

ally its second phase the progressive and heroic youth of Afghanistan have fought gallantly the internal and external reactionaries and counter-revolutionaries who are trained, armed and backed by the US imperialism, Pakistan militarists and Arab reaction. Our youth have voluntarily been taking part in the construction and development work in Afghanistan.

The revolution certainly makes headway towards the building of the new society of Afghanistan. The youth have therefore greater tasks ahead and the people of Afghanistan are

looking forward to the patriotic and progressive youth to bring the Saur Revolution to final victory and thus realise the objectives of the revolutionary Afghanistan.

We hope the festival of youth and the massive solidarity meetings held will provide further incentive to the youth of Afghanistan to organise their forces in a better manner so that they could play more constructive role and help better the party and government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in carrying out their activities and discharging the responsibilities they are shouldering for ensuring progress and social justice.

CRAFT UNIONS ESTABLISHED FOR WORKERS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 5 Oct 80 p 2

[Text]

The consolidation and strengthening of the craft unions have led thousands of thousands of our workers to stand firm behind the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. It is an important step taken forward especially after the emergence of the second phase of the glorious Saur Revolution. Politically speaking, the craft unions of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan constitute a strong arm to help the PDPA and DRA government realise the lofty aspirations of Saur Revolution and put into effect the social, economic and cultural programmes undertaken in the interest of the masses of workers and peasants in the country.

The Central Council of the Craft Unions which has been established after the second phase of the revolution have launched an intensive and extensive efforts to get

the workers organised in the capital and the provinces as well

Admittedly, the members of the Craft Unions have carefully followed the instructions and orders of the Central Council as the highest authoritative body of the Craft Unions of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan

Eye catching achievements have been made by the Craft Unions and its central council. We have witnessed that the workers with the help of their unions under the instruction of their central council have cooperated in establishing resistance groups, in propagation of the lofty objectives of the Saur Revolution and the importance of getting united in the craft unions, expanding the artistic and cultural activities, forming sport teams and taking part in the activities carried out by the illiteracy courses

In line with other useful and fruitful measures adopted by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the DRA Government the first Plenum of the central council of the Craft Unions was held in the headquarters of the Unions of Workers of Afghanistan sometimes ago. It was indeed an important event in the life of the workers. The first plenum of the unions of workers instructed the presidium to take effective steps towards establishment of city and provincial councils of unions of workers. With the establishment of these councils of workers' unions the activities of the workers will be organised in an effective manner in the interest of the working class led by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan to help realise the lofty objectives of Saur Revolution.

As repeatedly said by the leadership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan now the rule of workers and peasants has been consolidated

in our country. There will be no room for the past feudal lords, big land owners and exploiters to serve their interests in the revolutionary Afghanistan at the expense of the lot of millions of workers and peasants.

The city councils of the Unions of Workers are supposed to work as middle bodies between the workers and the Central Council of the Unions of Workers. The establishment and convening of the Kabul City Council of craft union took place as a result of the second Plenum of the Central Council of the Unions of Workers.

Convened to put into effect the resolutions of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan about the roles and duties of the unions in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the second Plenum of the Central Council of the Craft Unions passed a number of important resolutions which have significant role in the life of the

workers in Afghanistan. The city councils of Unions of workers will pass down the directions and instructions of the Central Council of the Unions of Workers of Afghanistan to the workers and toilers through the primary organisations and transmit the demands and needs of the millions of toilers to the upper echelon of the Unions of Workers. The city councils of the Unions of Workers are expected to do every thing in their power to raise the level of production and to enhance the standard of knowledge and culture of workers and toilers of Afghanistan.

It is hoped that the City Councils of the Unions of Workers will try their best to establish primary organisations within different public and private organisations including factories and industrial establishments to implement the decisions made on the top level of the workers unions and thus serve the interest of the working class.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGES MUJAHIDIN SUCCESS--Kabul, 7 August (Radio Report)--Radio Kabul today indirectly acknowledged the success of the mujahidin in the province of Kunduz. In its news broadcast, Radio Kabul said that the activities of the mujahidin had increased a great deal in Kunduz, and adversely affected daily life in the area. The broadcast stated that the supporters of former President Hafizullah Amin were cooperating with the mujahidin, and that the mujahidin were doing much damage to government buildings and schools, etc. [Text] [Lahore MASHRIQ in Urdu 8 Aug 80 p 3] 9612

KARMAI EXECUTES 200 MUJAHIDIN--Moscow, 15 Aug (AFP)--The Karmal administration in Afghanistan has executed about 200 mujahidin. This was revealed in the official newspaper of the Russian ministry of defense. The newspaper said that these people were among troublemakers arrested in July. Their arms were confiscated and most of them were executed. [Text] [Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 16 Aug 80 p 10] 9612

CLERGYMEN EXPRESS SOLIDARITY--Kabul, Oct. 6 (Bakhtiar)--The monthly meeting of the clergymen and Emaman of more than 100 mosques of the city and villages of Jauzjan province was held in Shiberghan hotel last Thursday. Following recitation of a few verses from the Holy Koran, one of the party and government cadres in his speech disclosed the conspiracies of the enemies. He called on Islamic scholars to explain to the people what holy Islam says. Similarly, the preacher of Shiberghan congregational mosque and a number of scholars disclosed the conspiracies of the enemies of the holy religion of Islam, expressing complete solidarity with the government and the party. At the end the treatises of the Publicity, Extension and Education Department of the PDPA CC were distributed to the participants. [Text] [Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 6 Oct 80 p 1]

DEPUTY MINISTER TO MONGOLIA--Kabul, Oct. 6 (Bakhtiar)--On the invitation of the Mongolian Public Health Ministry Second Deputy Public Health Minister Dr. Nabi Kamyar left for Ulan Bator yesterday to visit some health institutions there. He was seen off at the Kabul International Airport by First Deputy Public Health Minister Dr. Zarah and some members of Mongolian embassy in Kabul. During his visit, Dr. Kamyar will hold talks with concerned authorities of that country on possibilities of cooperations of the two countries in the field of medicine. [Text] [Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 6 Oct 80 p 4]

1980-1984 FIVE-YEAR PLAN STUDIED

Committees To Begin Work

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 25 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] Algiers (APS)--The standing committees of the Peoples National Assembly will begin, starting Monday 25 August 1980, to examine bills related to the 1980-1984 five-year plan and to the Appropriation Bill for 1981.

Wilaya Studies Development Plans

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 26 Aug 80 p 4

[Text] Tlemcen (APS)--The five-year plan was, on Sunday, the central piece of work taken up by a meeting held at the offices of the Peoples Wilaya Assembly (PWA) of Tlemcen, which brought together members of the PWA Economic and Administrative Committee with those in charge of the Wilaya Department of Planning.

During this meeting, proposals from the APC's [People's Communal Assembly] on the development projects of their communes were examined. From these proposals it emerges that a considerable effort will be undertaken as part of the plan to finish the entire range of projects approved for this region.

Indeed, this work represents close to 54 percent of all the programmed projects since 1970.

Other important considerations have moreover motivated the basic proposals made as part of this plan, namely the investment efforts of all sectors, economic, social, and cultural, including agricultural, which is to receive important credits principally for small and medium-sized hydraulics.

Furthermore, particular attention will be paid to the modernization and maintenance of the road network, to problems of supplying drinking water to cities, to electrification and public health.

The specialized PWA committees in this regard devoted several days to the study of these proposals.

The housing sector was, equally in this respect, the subject of proposals aimed at overcoming the delays in Wilaya projects in this field, delays which are linked to the problem of means of carrying out the projects, to supply difficulties and to the lack of semi-skilled labor.

These proposals will also be the central piece of work of the inter-ministerial committee of planning which will meet on 30 August in Tiemcen.

9130

CSO: 5400

COUNTRY-WIDE JOINT MEETINGS OF KASMAS-APC

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 17 Aug 80 pp 1, 2

[Article by A. Belkhodja: "A Spirit of Responsibility and Commitment"]

[Text] In compliance with the recommendations of the extraordinary Congress of the FLN party, joint kasma-APC meetings are succeeding one another throughout the entire country. The purpose of these meetings is to review the socio-economic problems which local communities are facing, problems inherent in the numerous changes they are undergoing.

The debate between militants and elected officials is always open and frank, prompted by a solicitude to bring about urgent solutions to the constraints and difficulties which crop up during the carrying out of programs decided upon. The forward march of the revolution and the confidence placed in elected officials by citizens call forth a spirit of responsibility and an absolute commitment, both of which find their full expression in the effort of edification and social progress.

Strengthening of Tiaret Distribution

The communal executive and the office of the FLN kasma of Tiaret have recently examined the entire range of points concerning the marketing sector during a coordination meeting held at kasma headquarters.

Housing and the distribution of building lots also figured on the agenda.

With regards to the latter, the committee charged with studying the dossiers devoted several night sessions at APC headquarters. A first allocation of 354 lots is about to be made available to citizens in the Sidi Khaled development.

In connection with this, the local responsables have deplored the silence of certain national firms to whom the commune has assigned lots and who have not showed up to erect on them the projects and planned installations.

The kasma and communal executive members jointly agreed to undertake first steps to contact the companies involved in order to urge diligent utilization of the lots thus far assigned and abandoned. It must be concluded that such negligence scarcely favors the extension and consolidation of the public sector which deserves efforts as well as serious attention. In this context, it was decided to program a meeting with CASORAN responsables for a definitive and precise assignment of lots and to thereby accelerate the start of the public health projects CASORAN has agreed to carry out.

The discussion about housing was restricted and concise, namely the application of texts in force which provide for the continuous functioning of the allocation commission with competency to investigate all dossiers.

The executives of the APC and the kasma held a second meeting to which the directors of public enterprises and offices were invited, such as SONACAT, INC, ONALAIT, SN Sompas, SONIPEL, Souk El-Fellah, COFEL. Of the aforementioned companies, only ONALAIT and Souk El-Fellah answered the appeal of the local authorities... This intentional absence at the working sessions goes against presidential directives which insist strongly on the concentration of all responsables for the purpose of arriving together at solutions which focus on the improvement of distribution not only during the month of Ramadhan but on a permanent basis.

The meeting which proposed to examine the situation of all the sectors then limited itself to only those present: ONALAIT and Souk El-Fellah which, it must be admitted, are regular when these current initiatives are involved. The situation of the ONALAIT distribution unit is sufficiently well known. The unit has available only rudimentary means which prevent it from supplying the totality of the seven dairas of the wilaya... An insignificant rolling fleet has gone beyond the threshold of reform. It continues nonetheless to 'roll' as best it can to satisfy distribution needs among several communes. Only in recent times has it proved to be inadequate for the needs expressed by the population... Of the 16,000 l, earmarked for the wilaya, delivery of only 6,000 l, was signed for. While waiting for the fleet to be increased, the Tiaret APC has promised to make available to the office a vehicle to supply the localities which are closest to the chief town of the wilaya. With the exception of milk, secondary products are not to be found on the market. Only very infrequently does the Tiaret unit receive secondary products from the regional unit which for its part depends on Sidi Bel Abbes and Tlemcen. It is thus on only rare occasions that Souk El-Fellah obtains supplies which the aforementioned units agree to deliver to it.

In closing it was agreed that urgent steps would have to be taken to meet the project goals of the ONALAIT production unit which was programmed several years ago but which has yet to come into existence.

This unit is obviously justified by a favorable geographic implantation since it will not be limited to supply a wilaya of 37 communes but will also provide for the needs of wilayas bordering on the South. In any case, what must not be forgotten is the feverish activity which predominates throughout the whole year in the small ONALAIT unit which with very meager resources struggles to meet the needs of a very large, spread out wilaya.

Souk El-Fellah, for its part, thanks to the premises which were handed over to it by the PAC, has managed to compensate for the empty space left unfinished for nearly five years by the SNGCA unit. The commune has just made available to the OFLA [Fruit and Vegetable Office] a piece of land which will accommodate appropriate installations from Souk El-Fellah. For presently the narrowness of the premises is such that the crowd daily runs the risk of suffocating. This crowd is justified by the very reasonable prices charged by Souk El-Fellah.

The retail market has decided for its part to no longer observe the fixed prices in force. An easy profit which is made at the expense of workers' pocketbooks has become the general rule. Only the state stores bring about a true price stabilization because supervision is ineffective. Sanctions are not proportionate to fraud, which is spreading. All one has to do is glance at ENC or SONACAT to become aware of this. These two agencies have practically become genuine beehives to which converge a colony of speculators, made up of merchants holding trade registers and phantom merchants who possess trade registers but no business, or even those uncovered by any criterion listed in regulations in force. It is to be hoped that the application of the new legislation will purge from this sector the parasites who indulge in a thousand and one practices which trouble the marketing circuit whose negation is felt directly by the consumer.

Price Rises and Speculation

The several formulae that have been applied have not really borne fruit; or at least they have perhaps partially reduced speculation. Indeed, one cannot deny the advantages of the "consumer producer" formula, which was adopted recently for refrigerators, stoves, and television sets. Another phenomenon has unfortunately burst upon the scene. This is the birth of a consumer corporation whose only consumption is the purchase, after which the product passes from hand to hand at prices which double.

There are also consumers who acquire a batch of products which they turn over to a merchant in exchange for a substantial commission for having agreed to put up their national identity card and for having undergone the fastidious chain effects. This phenomenon which does not contribute greatly to the harmony of the marketing sector deserves closer analysis. For when all is said and done, in such a confused state of affairs, how can the real consumer who uses the product for his own needs be distin-

can the real consumer who uses the product for his own needs be distinguished from the one who speculates--his end concern--in order to feed the parallel market.

Concerning the SN SEMPAC [National Semolina Industry, Milling, Pasta, and Confectionary Company], the local responsables are to urge this company to build the industrial bakery whose need is making itself strongly felt. SNIC continues peddling goods with the same consignment vehicle in the absence of storage premises. SOGEDIA still relies on the Reliance unit, SONACAT pays out considerable amounts for premises it has been renting for several years. This is likewise the case with CASORAN.

The matter of investments seems to be neglected by several agencies while the municipality of Tiaret is urging them to build their exploration installations on available land. A high level approach must be made; this has been the conclusion of local responsables who are determined to contribute effectively to the consolidation of the public sector, which constitutes and will constitute the people's gain.

9130

CSO: 4400

WILAYA TRANSPORTATION ENTERPRISE SET UP

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 12 Aug 80 p 2

[Text] Mascara (APS)--The transportation sector plays a primordial role in the economic development of every region of the country. In the wilaya of Mascara, an agricultural region which numbers 450,000 inhabitants, this sector faces serious problems.

With respect to passenger transportation, the SNTV of Mascara has only 16 buses available for local transportation, of which several no longer meet current needs due to their antique vintage. To that must be added the failure to operate public passenger transportation lines assigned the moudjahidines [veterans] and the weakness of private carriers who have available public transportation lines, but who do not satisfactorily discharge the mission which has devolved on them for lack of appropriate material means. There is also the crucial problem of school bus service which shows up the weakness of passenger transportation. In order to find a remedy to this situation, several proposals have been submitted by the wilaya services involved to competent central authorities. These suggestions relate to increasing the fleet and creating new lines within the wilaya and others which link the wilaya with certain other regions, as well as creating a wilaya-wide transportation enterprise.

In the field of private carriers, the wilaya numbers nine carriers who have available equipment which presents very real danger to passengers.

The number of passenger transportation lines assigned to the moudjahidines totals 13. However, the different assignees, who are undergoing financial difficulties due to the lack of vehicle availability, have not been able to serve the assigned lines. Only one turn around, Oued Taria-Mascara, is presently in service.

With respect to taxi transportation, 248 vehicles are in service in the wilaya. Concerning driver training and driver licensing, the wilaya has 18 establishments. On the other hand, only one examiner presently administers tests for obtaining driver's licenses.

As for public cargo transportation, the number of vehicles under 5 1/2 tons engaged in it wilaya-wide comes to 70. These vehicles total about 136 tons overall tonnage.

Chris Airfield Remains Shut

The SNTR, which has available in the wilaya only one office used as a branch line, has no fleet at Mascara, which obliges the different operators to find an alternative solution.

The transport of perishable goods, especially fruit and vegetables, poses enormous problems, as does supplying other wilayas from Mascara, during peak production seasons, for potatoes and onions, for example. To that must be added the transport of merchandise of existing commercial and industrial units which number about 15 wilaya-wide. Taking into account the present situation and the importance of transporting merchandise, an SNTR presence is indispensable. A study has been undertaken of the possibility of creating an SNTR merchandise transport center in the chief town of the wilaya.

With respect to merchandise carriers working for their own account, their number has shown a decline for many reasons. Thus, out of 128 carriers who had 149 vehicles, there remain only 83 carriers who have 100 vehicles. On the other hand, public merchandise carriers with the help of vehicles of over 5 1/2 tons possessing special temporary authorizations (STA) saw their number increase to reach six carriers who have eight (with a capacity of 8 to 12 tons) with new vehicle attributions by virtue of moudjahidine reclassification.

With respect to the wilaya's railway infrastructure, it consists of two main lines, namely Oran-Algiers, with service to Sig and Mohammadia on normal track, and Mohammadia-Bechar, with service to Hacine-Tizi-Ghriss on narrow track (120 km of track within the wilaya). The shortcomings of the rail network, the time required for car availability, accentuated by their transfer to narrow track, result in almost the total volume of merchandise in transit being shipped by truck, especially when perishable goods are involved, and this even though the wilaya has a large train station available for use at Mohammadia.

Three yards are planned in order to increase the number of cars, and a mini-train or "omnibus" will have to be placed in service between Mohammadia-Oued Taria, which will grant relief to the population centered around this axis. The link-up of Mascara's industrial zone with the Tizi station also proves to be necessary.

In short, the economic development of the Mascara wilaya requires, as far as transportation is concerned, the creation of a public passenger transportation enterprise, the setting up of an SNTR transportation center, the strengthening of the SNTV fleet and the aerial accommodation of the Ghriass airport. The fulfillment of these projects will make it possible for this wilaya to overcome the difficulties thus far encountered in the overall transportation picture.

9330

CSO: 4400

EASING OF PROPERTY ACQUISITION REGULATIONS

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 17 Aug 80 p 1

[Article: "Land Reserves: Easing of Property Acquisition Regulation"]

[Text] Algiers (APS)--Within the framework of the joint Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development action program, and with an eye to giving decisive impetus to the concretization of the priorities drawn up by the Political Directorate in the vital field of housing, an important working session brought together, yesterday afternoon in the Government Palace, Boualem Benhamouda, member of the Politburo, minister of the interior and Ahmed Ali Ghazali, member of the Central Committee, minister of housing and urban development, in addition to representatives of the central administrations of the two ministries.

During this meeting, the following three large dockets were examined: land reserves, resorption of precarious housing, and rural housing. Important decisions were also drawn up.

With respect to land reserves and in order to encourage individual or collective housing, the streamlining of procedures heretofore employed was the first point tackled. Thus with an eye to speeding up the process of transferring lots to private individuals, the two ministers agreed on a certain number of provisions intended to improve on the procedures recently employed.

In addition to the easing of lot transfers, the government has released more than 30 million dinars which it has set apart for allotment studies which will be carried out by national (ECOTEC, CADAT...) and local planning departments.

The planning departments will be in charge, within the framework of special conventions with the wilayas, of carrying out studies of allotments intended for individual or collective housing, of furnishing, at the same time, and free of charge to buyers, housing plans which thus exempt the latter from the long and slow procedure of obtaining a building permit.

It is to be recalled that this operation involves close to 1,200 localities situated throughout the national territory and especially in the interior of the country where space and town planning constraints are less acute.

The planned streamlining is certain to beget progress in this action which has already, to date, chalked up valuable results.

The second point examined at this meeting concerned the resorption of shantytowns and the fight against illegal building.

It must be mentioned in this regard, that under the combined pressure of demographic growth and the housing crisis, regulation in respect to supervision of town planning has shown itself, put to the test of actual fact, to be inadequate and ineffectual and has been unable to avert the proliferation, in certain zones, of shantytowns and the multiplication of illegal and unauthorized uncivilized spontaneous, precarious housing.

In order to correct this situation, which seriously compromises the physiognomy of our cities, the two ministers examined the following possibilities:

- considerably streamlining the procedure for granting building permits in agglomerations of more than 2,000 inhabitants;

- submitting, on the other hand, to a meticulous procedure construction in zones of prime agricultural value whose preservation and valorization the Central Committee has, it is known, requested;

- increasing the civil and penal sanctions against infringers of town planning rules.

Concerning existing shantytowns, a joint program between the two ministries was decided upon. This program involves:

- an inventory of all insanitary and precarious housing through the registration of the identity of the occupants, the make-up of the families concerned, and the consistency of this housing;

- the obligation for local authorities to set aside a housing quota, in programs presently on-going or those to be carried out in the future, in order to progressively relocate shantytown occupants.

These measures remain nevertheless simple palliatives to the problem of insanitary housing, the real solution of which is to be found in the promotion of rural housing.

In the spirit of promoting rural housing, the two ministries decided, in agreement with the ministries of agriculture and agrarian revolution,

and of planning and national development, a program of encouragement of rural housing.

This program, which fits into the policy of integrating work and housing, consists of equipping, free of charge, the fellahs with developed lots, construction materials with a view to making it possible for them to build by themselves, with the aid of the People's Communal Assemblies and the technical branches of agriculture and town planning, individual lodgings adapted to rural environment and located close to their work.

The concretization of this program will make it possible to stop rural exodus in its tracks, and, thereby, to settle workers of the land.

In the last analysis, the range of measures adopted in this coordination meeting fits into an overall strategy which aims at rendering effective the complementarity between rural milieu and urban milieu, a preoccupation whose ultimate goal is the equitable and harmonious raising of living standards of city and country dwellers.

9330

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

SONATRACH PARTY CELL INSTALLED--The ceremony for setting up the first party cell in Sonatrach-Production was held yesterday afternoon in the office of Sonatrach Production Management in Hydra (Algiers). This ceremony was attended by representatives of the FLN kasma [National Liberation Front - Division] of Birmandreis and Mass Organizations. During this event the representative of the Birmandreis kasma spoke to Sonatrach workers, stating that Production Management plays an important role in the economic development of the country. He pointed out that the workers should be vigilant to actuate this cell which will represent the party in the firm. He added that the cell will have to reinforce the ideological training of the workers, to contribute to the firm's orientation as part of the national charter and to broaden the FLN base. He also insisted on the necessity of the control and rational utilization of the means of production as well as the defense of the revolution's gains. [Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11 Aug 80 p 1]

CSO: 4400

PLOT TO SEIZE SOVIET EMBASSY FOILED; ARMY, INTERNAL OPPOSITION DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 25 Jul 80 pp 33, 35

[Article by David Bishay: "In Preparation for Second Operation to Rescue Hostages, CIA Foiled Coup Attempt in Iran; Moscow Sent Commandos Disguised as Painters to Protect Its Embassy in Iran"]

[Text] On the morning of Monday, the 23rd of last June, the Soviet Embassy in Tehran contacted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and notified the ministry's Protocol Section of the imminent arrival of 35 Soviet painters on a special Ilyushin plane because the embassy building needed to be painted from the inside and the outside. The embassy asked for the necessary facilities for those painters upon their arrival in the international airport of the Iranian capital. The Protocol Section asked the embassy why it didn't use Iranian "painters" when Tehran is full of them and when they are known capable and skillful. The embassy said that for security reasons, it decided to use Soviet workers and that it was necessary to permit them to enter the country.

The special Ilyushin plane arrived on the following day. The Soviet "painters" disembarked, each carrying a big and heavy suitcase, and headed immediately for a column of black Zim cars belonging to the Soviet Embassy which took the painters to the embassy building in the center of the Iranian capital.

The Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials were not unaware that these painters had nothing to do with painting the embassy or with anything of the sort. More than a week did actually pass but the embassy made no efforts to do any painting and none of the 35 workers appeared outside its premises. The Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs contacted the Ministry of Defense to notify it of the matter and to inform it of its suspicions regarding the mission of these Soviet workers. Mostafa Shamran, the minister of defense and the chief official in charge of the state internal and external security, instructed his aides to watch the Soviet Embassy and the moves of the Soviet diplomats closely.

After 2 days of intensive watch, Shamran's aides informed their command that there was abnormal activity inside the embassy indicating the presence of a state of semi-emergency in it. The aides said that a large number of the

Soviet guards were carrying varied weapons, including antitank weapons and gas bombs used for dispersing demonstrations. The aides also informed the command that the embassy employees were seen moving radio communication equipment to the embassy building vaults and that the residential wing of the embassy, used for the diplomats and their families, seemed to be completely empty which indicated the presence of the occupants in underground shelters.

On 28 June, Mostafa Shamran decided to make his move and his men staged a surprise raid on a special meeting of the leadership bureau of the Communist Tudeh Party and arrested most of those present, including—in addition to the party men—a number of the Iranian armed forces officers and Vladimir Golovanov, the first secretary of the Soviet Embassy.

Mostafa Shamran believed firmly that the meeting was held to stage an operation of sorts inside the Iranian capital. But interrogation of the arrested Iranians produced no material evidence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had to content itself with issuing an order for the deportation of Golovanov and all 35 members of the "painting" team, who had done absolutely no painting work even though more than a week passed since their arrival, within 74 hours. What is surprising is that Soviet Ambassador Aleksander Vinogradov raised no objection to the expulsion of the first secretary but objected strongly to the deportation of the housepainters. Vinogradov notified the Iranian officials that if the Iranian government insisted on deporting the Soviet workers, then all the Soviet Embassy staff, including Vinogradov himself, would leave on the same plane. When asked if this meant severance of the diplomatic relations between the two countries, the Soviet ambassador answered curtly: "Yes." The Iranian authorities then backed down on their demand for deportation of the Soviet workers and only diplomat Golovanov and his family were deported.

On the evening of Sunday, 6 July, Vinogradov contacted Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Gotbzadeh by telephone and requested an urgent meeting with him. The meeting took place only half an hour after the telephone call. During the meeting, Vinogradov delivered to Gotbzadeh the details of a scheme to seize the Soviet Embassy in an operation similar to that in which the U.S. Embassy was occupied. Vinogradov said that the plan was scheduled for implementation by midnight and that it was to be carried out by a number of armed persons led by Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Montazeri, the son of Ayatollah Montazeri. Vinogradov presented to Gotbzadeh a report on the gathering places of those armed men and a precise timetable of their movement and of their plan to attack the embassy and seize its main building. The timetable also included the names of the members involved in the scheme. The Soviet ambassador demanded that the Iranian Revolution Council adopt immediate measures to stop the operation. The minister of foreign affairs was warned that the Soviet Union is prepared to take all measures, including military force, to protect the embassy.

Less than half an hour after Vinogradov's departure from Gotbzadeh's office, the Revolution Council was holding an emergency meeting to discuss the Soviet ultimatum. The council then issued its instructions to the revolutionary

guard to surround all the gathering places of Montazeri's militia and to prevent them from making any move even if the situation called for opening fire on them. After discussions lasting more than one hour with the leaders of these militias, Montazeri's forces abandoned the Soviet Embassy operation and dispersed quietly without firing a single bullet. The Iranians thought that the matter had ended at that but were then surprised by an official statement from the Soviet Government in the form of a warning against any move against the Soviet Embassy in Tehran. The official TASS news agency kept on repeating the statement for reason and for no reason despite the Iranian assurances to the Soviets that the planned move was destroyed in the cradle and that the embassy was completely safe.

However, the Iranians came to believe firmly that something was being plotted against them. An important meeting was held at the home of Ayatollah Khomeini and was attended by Ayatollah Beheshti, the leader of the Islamic Republican Party, by Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Khomeini's personal representative in the armed forces, and by Minister of Defense Mostafa Shamran. Neither President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr nor Foreign Minister Gorbzadeh attended the meeting. They didn't even know a thing about its convocation, about what was discussed in it or about its resolutions.

Several reports gathered by Mostafa Shamran from his various intelligence sources were presented to Ayatollah Khomeini. The first report was on the increased Soviet activity inside the Iranian armed forces and on the suspicious activities of members of the Communist Tudeh Party among the army forces. The report said that there also was increased military activity in the Soviet army bases near the Caspian Sea which is adjacent to Iran's northern borders.

One of those attending the meeting asked Shamran about the source of his information on the Soviet moves north of the Iranian borders and Shamran said: "The source of the information is the U.S. intelligence and we have received the information through a third party."

Mostafa Shamran's second report was on the situation in the huge air base of (Nowcheh Howr), located near Hamadan in western Iran. This report said that a large number of the base officers and pilots were in contact with anti-revolution elements living outside the country, particularly with former Prime Minister Shahpor Bakhtiari.

In the third report, Mostafa Shamran presented his visualization of the situation in the Iranian oil area of Khuzestan and talked about the increasing popularity of Ahmad Madani, the area's former commander, among the population. Ahmad Madani lost the presidential battle to Bani-Sadr when Khomeini declared his support for the present president a few days before the elections. Madani did not forget this "intrigue" and started to agitate his supporters and followers against Khomeini's and to extend bridges of communication with the naval base in Abadan and with the army forces in the area. The report said that Madani was planning for a coup against the central government in Iran and for the secession of Khuzestan and its vast oil wealth.

Mostafa Shamran's fourth and final report was on the force opposing Ayatollah Khomeini "which has no contacts with foreign circles or with the Iranian opposition abroad." The report warned that this internal opposition is increasing, is beginning to take the form of organizations and that its popularity is rising because it is clear of any suspicions regarding its national intentions or its acting as an agent of the former regime or of any foreign countries.

The meeting lasted for hours and it was decided to carry out a quick purging operation to wipe out plots before they spread. Khomeini asked Mostafa Shamran and Ayatollah Khamene'i to prepare a list of those plotting against the regime and to present it to him.

Two days later, Shamran and Khamene'i arrived at Khomeini's residence with a list of 1,110 names including all or the overwhelming majority of the plotters in the armed forces. Shamran also brought with him a plan to destroy and liquidate the plotters by using the revolutionary guard forces that support the regime. Again, President Bani-Sadr was informed of neither the plan nor the time of its implementation.

On 9 July, Shamran started to move the forces supporting him to the army bases where opponents of the regime are concentrated. On the night of 10 July, the rapid offensive, arrests and liquidation operation started. Most of the action centered in the area around the capital, in the (Nowchah Row) air base and in some of the bases around the Caspian Sea. There was some resistance, especially in the Ahvaz and Mosaddaq air bases. The clashes continued until 12 July. A large number of those accused of plotting were killed, others fled and nearly 600 persons were arrested. Some of the escapees flew a helicopter and landed it in the Turkish province of (Aghri) and asked the Ankara government for political asylum.

The number of those arrested by 14 July amounted to 632 members of the armed forces, 27 of whom have already been executed. Most of those executed were high-ranking officers, including former Chief of Staff Gen Hushang Hatem and the commander of the armored corps in Khuzestan province. But it then became evident to Mostafa Shamran and his aides that a large number of the plotters were still at large and so he closed Iran's borders and its airports for 48 hours. Tehran airport was opened last Friday but the other exits have remained closed in an attempt to prevent the escapees from sneaking outside the country.

President Bani-Sadr was not informed of the move against the plotters, or of those accused of plotting, until a full day after the operation was carried out. He was then entrusted with the task of announcing the operation to the people.

By last weekend, Tehran's local radio was still urging the masses to be alert to plots and sedition, talking about the plotters' attempt to avoid arrest and to flee the country by various means and calling for cooperation with the revolution forces to make sure that they are found [arrested].

But what is more important was the repeated warnings that the authorities were broadcasting about sabotage acts against public installations and vital utilities and about the presence of a large number of agents in the country to stage operations against the Islamic revolution and Ayatollah Khomeini, its great leader.

The radio said that the agents are working for Israel, Egypt, Iraq and traitor Shapoor Bakhtiar. The radio also said that the agents are led by a group of "traitorous generals" who support the shah, live in Europe and receive their orders from the United States. The Islamic guard have intensified the guard around the U.S. Embassy where the hostages are held because of the suspicion of the presence of "cooperation" of the U.S. intelligence with the Iranian authorities in exposing the Soviet moves--suspicion that this cooperation is a mere screen for secret moves to make another attempt to rescue the hostages through exploiting the state of confusion that usually accompanies the uncovering of plots, the efforts to destroy them and the efforts to pursue and arrest escapees. All this is based on the view that the staging of a successful U.S. operation to release the hostages at this particular time would be the biggest coup that President Jimmy Carter could stage to guarantee his success in the elections which will take place in a few months.

8494

CSO: 4902

INTERNAL STRUGGLE FOR POWER, BAKHTIAR'S CHANCES TO RETURN DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 1 Aug 80 pp 26-27

[Article: "Khomeyni Declares Revolution to Save Revolution; When Bakhtiar Presented His Program for Ruling Iran, Beheshti Decided to Try Him in Absentia"]

[Text] Tehran--While the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua is celebrating the first anniversary of crushing Somoza's dictatorship and releasing the democratic liberties, the Iranian revolution, described as having come to change the face of the world, is still floundering in fearful and bloody chaos. The struggle for secular power between the civilians and the clergy has made the Iranian leaders forget thinking of the future of Iran, the homeland.

For 2 weeks now, reports of the executions carried out in Iran in the middle of the night have been increasing--the execution of army elements and of those who spread corruption on earth, who cross the borders between Iran and Iraq and who are relatives of Shahpor Bakhtiar, a former prime minister in the shah's era. Amidst the executions and the explosions, it seems that each leader is living in a state of contradiction and that each of them pretends to be indifferent, as if matters were proceeding normally, in order to bolster his leadership. Meanwhile, each of these leaders lives in a state of fear of the other leaders.

Amidst this sea of uncertainty, Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr stood before the Islamic Consultative Assembly the Tuesday before last to take the oath, under the supervision of Supreme Judiciary Council Chairman Ayatollah Beheshti, to become the first president of the Islamic Iranian Republic officially and legally. It was said that he would appoint a prime minister immediately for the awaited government. But, regrettably, Bani-Sadr has not known how to exploit his election popularity which amounted last January to 75 percent of the Iranian people, has turned a blind eye to many issues and has gone along with others at the expense of issues that he should have defended and not permitted to be destroyed. Perhaps Bani-Sadr has committed a mistake by relying too heavily on his conviction which he has declared repeatedly, namely "I am the spiritual son of Imam Khomeini," whereas it seems that the final positions taken by Khomeini in a course favoring President Bani-Sadr's main rival, namely Ayatollah Beheshti, the chairman of the Islamic Republican Party.

On Sunday, 20 July, and amidst the clamor created over foiling the coup attempt [presumably by army officers], Khomeini attacked in a statement (one that was more violent than his statement of 27 June 1980) the government, the army and the Iranian embassies abroad and urged the Islamic Consultative Assembly to reject any government formed by Bani-Sadr if its members are not 100 percent Islamic and revolutionary. This time, Bani-Sadr did not respond to Khomeini as he had done the previous time even though Khomeini dealt him a new harsh blow when Bani-Sadr announced the nomination of his son, Sayyed Ahmad Khomeini, to form the government. This rejection has been considered a blow because of its timing. A month ago, Bani-Sadr sent Khomeini a message including this suggestion [to nominate Khomeini's son for prime minister] and received the answer only after the attacks against him began to escalate. In any case, Ahmad Khomeini does not represent the personality that his father wants and does not have revolutionary political aspirations. Moreover, he is a pacifist who supports Bani-Sadr's refusal to execute "everybody." He has intervened repeatedly for the release of some of the American hostages. Moreover, he does not have the intimidating and awe-inspiring personality of his father. Observers say that he is not qualified to play any role in case of his father's death and that he will continue to be one of the thousands of clergymen in Iran, but a clergyman with a big name. In any case, Bani-Sadr failed to form a government before the parliamentary elections. After the elections, he has failed to reach a compromise on forming the government with the Islamic Republican Party. This is why many find it unlikely that he will now succeed in forming a government in which he believes, especially in the wake of Khomeini's announcement which has caused the names of technocrats and of civilians to be dropped all at once.

On the other hand, Ayatollah Beheshti, the Islamic Republican Party chairman, has nominated Jaleleddin Farsi, one of the party founders whose nomination for the presidency had been withdrawn because his mother is an Afghan. Farsi's religious fanaticism did him no good in eliminating this obstacle.

Farsi (who is very close to the Palestinians) continued to play strong roles, but behind the scenes, while waiting for another opportunity to appear. He knows that he and Beheshti represent the same line, especially since he is a clergyman in civilian clothes.

The opportunity came in the wake of the abortive attempt at Shahpoor Bakhtiar's life in Paris when he "slapped" Sadeq Gotbzadeh, the Iranian minister of foreign affairs, who denounced the attempt on French television and said it was not the work of the [Iranian] government. Farsi responded to Gotbzadeh by saying that the attempt was real [sic], that it was the work of the "guards of Islam," that he -- Farsi -- knows their leader personally and that he had encouraged this leader to send his men to kill the opponents of the Islamic revolution wherever they may exist in France, Germany, Britain or the United States. Farsi added: "The Guards of Islam Organization does not need offices abroad because the bullet declares this organization's presence."

Farsi's statement did not come as a result of his personal power, and this is what everybody has been aware of. It is said that he was given the green light by the imam [Khomeini] and by the Islamic Republican Party. This

confused and perplexed Gorbazadeh. However, he did not issue any denial on his statement that the government had no knowledge of the issue [attempt at Bakhtiari's life] even though the Imam declared that the government is useless, that things take place without its knowledge and that each of its members acts the way he likes. What worried Gorbazadeh is that the attack against him came in the wake of the attack which Khomeini had unleashed at the Iranian embassies abroad, accusing them of being "dens of licentiousness." Gorbazadeh's closeness to the Imam does not mean that he is safe and this is why he did not appear in the session in which Bani-Sadr took the constitutional oath and why he declared that he will not take part in the next government. It is said that he has begun to feel that he will be the next victim, especially since the Muslim students have demanded that he be sued legally. Some people close to Gorbazadeh say that he is preparing to leave Iran to save his life, especially since the Guards of Islam have joined the Muslim students in the demand that he be brought to trial.

On the other hand, some observers have interpreted the current emergence of Jafaruddin Parsi by saying that Beheshti has made the first move in his plan for the fatal blow that he wants to deal Bani-Sadr. If Parsi were the president of the Republic, Beheshti would not have created all these obstacles in his face. Moreover, Beheshti has known how to exploit Khomeini's statement on a "government whose members are 100 percent Muslim"—a statement which means a diminishing role for the people's civilian representatives in the Consultative Assembly and means the right of the assembly, which is dominated by the overwhelming majority of the Republican Party, to reject any candidate nominated by Bani-Sadr. In any case, some well-informed people say that if Beheshti succeeds in imposing Parsi as prime minister, Bani-Sadr will have no recourse but to resign. Despite his current isolation, Bani-Sadr refuses to be like the president of West Germany who stays in his residence and enjoys the title of "his excellency the president"—a situation which Beheshti wants.

Parsi's instatement can only take place with the approval of Khomeini, of course. If this should happen, Khomeini will have behaved with Bani-Sadr as he did with Mehdi Bazargan, the former prime minister. In August 1979, Khomeini stood in Qom to launch his attack on the government which lacked revolutionary faith and he accused at the time Bazargan, his government members, the army and the police of being unrevolutionary. Has Bani-Sadr now reached Bazargan's position and is Khomeini ready to declare his acceptance of the resignation which Bani-Sadr presented to him last month, especially since the price of the executions and of the arrests taking place in Iran at present is being paid by members of the National Front Party, the followers of Iranian leader Mosaddeq, who have fought the shah's regime for 25 years and most of whom are friends of Bani-Sadr who was a member of the front before joining Khomeini?

This small following of Bani-Sadr's says "the struggle between us and the clergy is already decided in their favor." However, they add: "Khomeini has not provided a definition of the Islam he wants. He also wants to be the Middle East's Mao Tse-tong and to maintain a constant revolution. Whenever we try to seek tranquility, he rises to bring us back to a revolution that is anarchic in most of its aspects."

Rahim-Sadi's group adds: "Khomeini's Islamic revolution is threatened by the Communist Tudeh Party--the only party that has exploited the chaos of the Iranian revolution to reorganize its cadres strongly and to assert that the first Mideastern communist party (Tudeh founded in 1919) has not ended and that its role in power is coming and imminent."

Some sources assert that the Muslim students who are holding the hostages in the American Embassy act on the instructions of Tudeh Party. These sources add that Beheshti is in ceaseless contact with Tudeh Party leaders. He has coordinated with these leaders from the time he was present in Germany and has continued to do so after the revolution's success. Beheshti, who is now stronger and cleverer, knows the strength of his influence on Khomeini and is preparing for the role which he will play in the post-Khomeini era.

The Iranian opposition says: Khomeini's Islam is not defined and clearcut and does not cover Iran alone. We no longer know if he wants to annihilate the traces of the Pahlavi era or the Persian heritage. He has issued his orders for the destruction of all the historical sites and for burning the books. The lion and the sun were not brought by the Pahlavi dynasty. They have been the symbol of the Persian Iran for thousands of years. Firdaws, whose books Khomeini has ordered burnt, lived in Iran 2,000 years ago and not in Pahlavi's era." [sic]

The Iranian opposition circles add: "What is happening in Iran asserts that Khomeini and his group are on the path of decline and there is no means to stop this decline. Even if the Soviets and the Americans try the impossible, they will be able to save nothing."

The current question is: Are the tense internal struggle and the opposition abroad the only two dangers to the revolution? It seems from the course of the events that Khomeini himself is aware of the danger engulfing the revolution. He has personally issued execution orders for the first time whereas in the past he used to be notified and his approval taken [for such executions]. His successive statements diffuse the smell of his feeling that time is running short. The revolution has exhausted the people's enthusiasm while failing to realize their aspirations. Moreover, it has devoted its efforts to small issues and (has blown them up beyond all dimensions). It also seems that Khomeini has reached the stage of doubting everybody. He knows that the struggle among the Iranian leaderships is not for pleasing him but for realizing personal aspirations and this is why he has said: "If the next government looks like the present one, then we should mourn the Islamic Republic because we will have been defeated."

On top of all these revolutionary difficulties, there are the economic hardships. Inflation has reached 100 percent, in addition to 4 million unemployed workers and strikes in all areas.

Moreover, the demand [iqbal] for and the production of oil are so low that the Iranian minister of oil was compelled 2 weeks ago to reduce the price of

Iranian oil by 2 dollars per barrel. Because of its problems, Iran is currently producing 800,000 barrels daily, half of which is for exportation and the other half for domestic needs. This is in addition to the shortages in all economic commodities and everyday needs.

Moreover, the minorities have started stirring again and the Baluchis, Arabs and Turkomans have joined the Kurds.

Can what Khomeini is doing at present be called an internal revolution to save the revolution? Can the execution of officers of the air force (which, along with the naval forces, Khomeini has not been able to control completely), the arrest of civilians, the accusation of Bakhtiar and others of daily-coup attempts and the antagonization of Europe and of the world save the deteriorating domestic situation.

It seems that the revolution is in need of subjecting itself to self-criticism and that it has had enough domestic struggles in its name, especially since the approach of striking whoever thinks of opposition instead of devoting attention to the national interest and to building the state has enhanced the opportunities that help to destroy the revolution. This approach has also come to pose the threat of a terrible civil war.

It seems that the offhanded blows dealt by the Iranian leaders in the name of the revolution and the accusations that the world is behind the [Iranian] political and economic crises have raised Shahpor Bakhtiar's name in Iran for numerous reasons, the most important being the fact that Bakhtiar was the first to oppose Khomeini. Others, such as Hasan Nazih and other figures, joined Bakhtiar afterwards.

Second [sic], Bakhtiar predicted what would happen to Iran and to the Iranian people if the clergy assumed power.

Third, Bakhtiar was one of the few third world prime ministers who gave the press its freedom and preserved this freedom, despite the martial law existing at the time and despite the press and caricature campaigns launched against him (at present, the Iranian press, like the rest of the third world press, is being exposed to fatal blows).

AL-HAWADITH has learned from a well-informed source that contacts between Bakhtiar and the Iranian parties, such as Mojahedin-e Khalq, Cherikha-ye Peda'i-ye Khalq and the Democratic Front, have begun secretly.

Bakhtiar's circles say that Bakhtiar's program has been distributed in Iran and that this has helped to enhance his popularity. The program calls for abolishing the Revolutionary Council and forming a provisional government supported by a council in which all the workers, farmers, university professors, political and economic figures and the technocrats are represented.

Second [sic], restoring confiscated property to its owners.

Third, reinstating the retired officers in their positions.

Fourth, pardoning all political prisoners.

Fifth, resumption of the activities of the political parties.

Those close to Bakhtiar say that he accepts all the parties, with the exception of Tudeh, and add that he does not have normal relations with Moscow. So far, the Russians are not enthusiastic for him.

On the other hand, Bakhtiar's sources assert that "his relations with the United States are not good. The United States still supports Khomeini because of the hostages and is still wagering on Bani-Sadr. These sources add that Bakhtiar may not return to Iran before the U.S. presidential elections."

Regarding the coordination between Bakhtiar and the Iranian General (Ofist), the sources close to Bakhtiar say that "Bakhtiar has his strong group in the army and this group is awaiting the 'real' opportunity to move. Moreover, Bakhtiar believes that the Pahlavi era has ended and that Khomeini's era is about to end."

In any case, it seems the Iranians have become obsessed with trials. Last Thursday, Beheshti stated that after completion of the trial of the officers and detainees (300 detainees), Bakhtiar will be tried in absentia and Iran will request his extradition by France.

If Bakhtiar returns, his program guarantees amnesty for whoever has applauded Khomeini but "Khomeini and his group will be turned over to the judiciary and will be given the right to defend themselves and to bring whomever they want from abroad to defend them. Their trial will be conducted openly."

8494

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DOWNFALL OF KHOMEYNI'S REGIME SAID TO BE IMMINENT, ALTERNATIVES DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 8 Aug 80 p 27

[Article: "Three Forces Lurking for Khomeyni's Regime: Army, Left and Bakhtiar: Two Traps into Which Iran Has Fallen: Hostages and Agreement on Prime Minister"]

[Text] Tehran--Last week, former Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan was asked about the fate of the American hostages and he answered: "I don't know my own fate. So how can I predict the fate of the hostages?"

In a [telephone] contact with a friend in Tehran I asked him about his father and he said: "Thank God he is in jail. This is safer than being outside it."

A TRIBUNE DE GENEVE correspondent has said in a report from Iran: I was listening to the radio with an Iranian friend when I noticed the bitterness that painted his face. I understood the reason when he translated to me the appeal that was being broadcast from the radio by one of Ayatollah Khomeini's aides. The appeal said:

"Destroy, destroy more because you will [not] destroy much [presumably meaning enough] whatever you do."

The correspondent has added: Outside, the Iranian cities were drowning in dirt, chaos and the last moan.

Last Wednesday and while a 12-year old girl was being given 25 lashes because she had swum in an area of the Caspian Sea set aside for men, Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Iranian Consultative Assembly chairman, was speaking in the parliament about the hostages issue, promising that it would be discussed shortly. He then read a message sent by 180 members of the U.S. Congress calling for the release of their compatriots. Rafsanjani silenced the deputies who tried to make objections and comments.

When the shah died, nobody asked about the fate of the hostages because all know that their issue is not linked to the shah's life or death, especially since the United States has repeatedly declared that the seizure of the hostages has led to an international crisis.

Now that the Iranian parliament has agreed to read a message concerning the hostages, no new hope has emerged, especially since Rafsanjani himself has said to Marcus Kaiser, the Swiss charge d'affaires who delivered the message to Rafsanjani: "Tell the Americans that this issue will not be settled peacefully."

Tehran has been passing the time with rumors circulating among the people regarding the fate of the hostages. One of the rumors is to the effect that a decision has been actually taken to execute the hostages but that it has not been agreed on the timing yet. The rumor adds that Bani-Sadr is now fighting for the cancellation of this decision.

Another rumor says that in return for releasing the hostages, the Iranian leaders will demand restoration of the shah family's wealth without forgetting the more important part, namely release of the [frozen] billions of dollars.

On the other hand, Queen, the American hostage who was released due to illness, has said that the hostages themselves believe that they are closer to death than they are to life.

The trap of the hostages in which the Iranian leadership is thrashing about is countered [presumably meaning compounded] by another trap, namely agreement over the prime minister. So far, Iran is still facing a constitutional crisis which underlines the inability of all the parties concerned to agree on an "acceptable" candidate who can "shake the world," to put it in the words of one of the Iranian clergymen.

Nobody can yet imagine the uproar which will be created over whomever is chosen to become the prime minister. Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr experienced new failure last week when he succumbed to the radical Islamic group and withdrew his nomination of Mustafa Mir Salim to the post of prime minister. Bani-Sadr has thus confirmed that the Islamic Republican Party will continue to maneuver until it imposes Jala'eddin Farsi without any consideration for the impact of such a step on Bani-Sadr.

It seems that the end which Bani-Sadr and his group have reached has wiped out the charges directed against his enemies or against those who tried to plot a coup against him including, for example, Hasan Ayah, the Islamic Republican Party theoretician, who was behind the attempted coup against Bani-Sadr—an attempt called Ayah's Recordings [tasjilat ayah] (Ayah explained to students the plan to attack and oust Bani-Sadr). Ayah came out this week to say that the Iranian constitution contains numerous means to relieve the president of the republic and to elect another president.

The struggle among individuals is escalating while Iran is heading for the unknown. The seven-man committee that was scheduled to be formed and to which the Iranian people have attached big hopes has not been formed because of Ayatollah Khomeini's refusal to participate in it or to send his representative to it. So far, Khomeini is still squatting high above, watching

the struggles taking place in the civil and religious institutions and being confident that this situation will tire the parties involved in the struggle and that he will remain the strongest. At the same time, Khomeini knows that release of the hostages would mean reducing the sphere of his strength and that the formation of an executive apparatus consisting of a government and legal members [sic] would also diminish his reputation though not his role.

But clinging to the principle of individual power does not eliminate Iran's domestic tragedy and does not eliminate what is being hatched around it. Internally, it is well known, all matters have come to a halt. Administrative departments are nonexistent and the decision makers are nonexistent. Even though the internal tragedy is big, it is not as important as what is happening abroad.

A well-informed source has assured AL-HAWADITH that on 2 July 1980, the western countries started to implement the resolutions they took in the Venice conference. In that conference, the west realized that it is impossible to reach an understanding with Khomeini's regime and that this regime had to be eliminated. On that day, the west agreed to go back to the Guadeloupe conference resolutions taken at the end of 1978--resolutions which adopted George Ball's theory that the solution to the Iranian problem can be based only on supporting Shahpur Bakhtiar who was the prime minister of Iran at the time.

The well-informed source added that this resolution became known to Iran and thus it decided to liquidate Bakhtiar in his capacity as the "ready alternative."

On the other hand, some western countries doubt Bakhtiar's leadership ability. However, the insistence of French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing on supporting Bakhtiar made these countries accept him. Moreover, Bakhtiar constitutes a compromise solution for all the Iranian opposition parties and for the Iranian people who do not at all welcome the return of the Pahlavi family, especially Princess Ashraf, or the return of Crown Prince Reza who is still too young to rule and who will continue to carry his father's curse with him.

This is why after the shah's death, the political observers started to project expectations indicating their certainty of the end of Khomeini's regime.

The political observers say that the opportunity is open for three forces to succeed Khomeini's regime:

1. The organized military units that are still loyal to the monarchy and that are small in number.
2. A consolidated left forming a ruling power [sic].
3. A new democratic state as projected by Shahpur Bakhtiar who has domestic and external civilian and military influence.

From these expectations, it has become certain to the observers that the accusation that Bakhtiar has tried to stage a coup attempt is nothing more than an excuse to weaken the Iranian armed forces. The Iranian leadership now has to find another charge to stick it to Bakhtiar in an attempt to liquidate him, especially since the shah's death will make the revolution unable to accuse him of being "an agent of the shah."

In any case, Bakhtiar's issue is not the only problem facing the Iranian clergy. There is a more serious problem. The destruction of the forces that pose no real danger to Iran's future has opened the opportunity for communism to infiltrate, organize and train, especially since the resolution of the western countries to get rid of Khomeini's regime has motivated the Soviet Union to act quickly through Tudeh Party, claiming that it supports Khomeini despite the fact that everybody knows that the Soviets--though they don't want Khomeini--are against any attempt that could be staged by Bakhtiar or by General (Ofisi) who is now making the rounds in the U.S. State Department offices in Washington.

This is why there are "moderate pessimists" insofar as Iran's fate is concerned. These people expect a U.S. military move to be made shortly and say that even though the Americans did not succeed in their first attempt, their failure does not prevent them from repeating the attempt. There are also "radical pessimists" who say that those in power in Iran have not understood that fragmenting the state element will motivate those demanding self-rule to go further and demand secession. These pessimists add that the mere hint of a demand for the secession or actual independence of Azerbaidhizan or Kurdestan will make Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev enthusiastic for such a temptation, support his communist friends and instate them as rulers of Iranian provinces which were under Russia's control until 1946.

To put it briefly, the devil is gripping Iran's neck and the revolution in Tehran is still discussing the sex of the angels.

8494

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KDP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON FIGHTING IN KORDESTAN

Paris NAMP-YE RUZ in Persian 1 Sep 80 pp 8-10

[Interview with unidentified KDP Central Committee Member]

[Text] The fighting in Kordestan has again intensified since last Wednesday. According to reports reaching Tehran, these battles have been in the vicinity of Tokab, Mehabad and Merivan, for the most part, with Kurdish rebel casualties amounting to 106 persons, while government forces lost only 39 persons. These figures ought to be taken with caution in the absence of an announcement from the rebel staff.

Owing to the ban on travel by foreign correspondents to Kordestan, actual reports concerning the forces in these areas are having a hard time reaching the outside world. LIBERATION held an interview with a member of the Central Committee of Kordestan Democratic Party of Iran who came to Europe last week.

Question: In April, President Bani-Sadr drafted a new plan of attack against Kordestan and announced at the time that Kurdish resistance would be broken. After the fall of the cities of Sanandaj, Saqqez and Baneh it has finally come out that military operations had decreased. What has happened in Kordestan over the last 2 months?

Answer: Large operations have not been undertaken but military actions have not decreased. Revolutionary guards and soldiers have launched attacks against the provinces of Kordestan, supported by helicopters. The hamlet of Ahmad Ava, for example, was completely wiped out. The greater part of the population has been successfully put to flight, but many (tens) were killed and were left behind.

There are other small villages in the Baneh region, many of whose inhabitants were immigrants, who had been brought there by the army, after the

destruction of their cities to seek refuge. They have experienced severe hardships.

[Question] A year ago, no great excitement was visible in the Iranian Army about fighting the Kurds.

[Answer] This army has become more efficient and more deadly. Just as we saw in Sananda], Saqqez and Baneh, the army no longer hesitates to bomb the cities. Of course, the army has a big problem from the standpoint of equipment, especially spare-parts; to repair one helicopter, for example, it's necessary to take apart two others. The Shah's Army had such a wealth of reserve equipment that there are still large supplies in many areas. In recent weeks, we have seen toys in the mountains which detonated upon use. In this fashion, many children have been mutilated.

[Question] What is the role of the Revolutionary Guards?

[Answer] The disarming of "counterrevolutionaries." Since every armed Kurd, particularly a commando, is fundamentally counterrevolutionary. On this pretext, they go into the hamlets and make a general slaughter of ally and enemy alike. They even pillage. We resist whenever we can, or we strike with a direct attack. In Saqqez and Sananda], commandos attack guards daily and even in Kermanshah, our forces attack Revolutionary Guard headquarters, in order to wipe out any security remaining for them in a single area and to prove that there is virtually no control over occupied city centers.

We have undertaken more important actions in recent weeks. We have brought down two government helicopters at a bridgehead connecting Sardasht with the outside. Secondly, rebel artillery fire destroyed a government Army motorized headquarters at Urmia. Third, actions were accomplished at a hamlet between Naqadeh and Ashneveh 15 days earlier. We took prisoner 70 of 300 revolutionary guards, destroyed two government tanks and took a third as spoil.

[Question] These reports were not in the Tehran announcements.

[Answer] Iran Radio-Television has practically never reported government losses, but has consistently reported innumerable deaths that are, for the most part, imaginary. Radio Iran recently announced that in an engagement we had killed 175. The engagement concerned was in fact so small that no one was wounded.

LIBERATION Comment: We have been able to confirm the reports of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan on the spot--we have monitored Iran on the subject of their own losses and on that of their opponents. Last year, for example, a printed Iranian source mentioned that between 300 and 600 persons were killed in a battle prior to the fall of Mehabad; Kurdish sources counted 13 dead (6 from one side, 7 from the other). This close sort of

figuring, give or take a few, more or less, is rare, a circumstance we should point out. Our radio tries daily to correct the lies broadcast by the government, but unfortunately its voice does not reach abroad.

[Question] Do you have radio equipment?

[Answer] The Voice of Kordestan in Iran broadcasts daily every hour and a half from Kuhistan, in Kurdish and in Persian.

[Question] A Paris correspondent has recently reported the assassination of "an important military figure" in Kordestan.

[Answer] An assassination attempt is always possible. To date, groups connected to General Oveysi, with the help of a few tribal chiefs from Iraqi territory, have tried on two occasions to engineer the death of Doctor Qasemlu (Secretary General of the Kordestan Democratic Party in Iran).

(LIBERATION: General Oveysi, Chief of Staff under the former Shah and known as the "Butcher of Tehran," directs irregular operations against Khomeyni from abroad, with the help of Iraq; the objectives of those operations have no connection with the objectives of the Kordestan Democratic Party of Iran. Nothing prevents General Oveysi from exploiting the leadership of the Kurdish resistance for the advancement of his own objectives, by calling for revolution in Kordestan.)

[Question] To what extent has the invasion of the major city of Mehabad, announced by Iran's leaders, been completed?

[Answer] All the cities are in the hands of the army. Between 1,000-15,000 soldiers were settled in the Mehabad garrison a year ago. The army had occupied the hills around the city with tanks and artillery. When this attack was announced for the first time, representatives of the people and political organizations held a conference with Army officials to tell them that this attack would cause harm without remedy. And to offer a proposal that the armed rebels evacuate the city on condition that the Revolutionary Guards take the same steps. For a year, soldiers had been drifting in and out of Mehabad, without arms and without business there. The Army accepted these proposals but did not keep its own promise. It seems as though the Army wants to occupy the city with tanks and turn the city into a power-base. From a military point of view, this would be useless. However, psychologically it would be a step towards intimidating people by saying "we took over Mehabad."

[Question] What do you see in the future?

[Answer] Without being optimistic we can say that in a short period of time our military organization is better than it was last year, even in the occupied cities. The morale of the people is also better. People have

experienced the fire of war and have understood that by fighting together something can be accomplished. As to the future, I must say that in months of parleys nothing has made me think that the enemy have any desire to negotiate. We know from reliable sources that the Ayatollah Khomeyni had ordered government representatives to put all our cities under siege before the parleys were held. And afterwards we prepared ourselves for a long war. We know no other choice."

[Question] Soon, 6 months will have elapsed since the date when Bani-Sadr said that you could not continue to resist another 72 hours...

[Answer] You, yourself see the result. The Army will take Mehabad. And what afterwards? Another month and the season will change. Then it will be our turn to launch an attack.

Battles At Mehabad

Yesterday Iranian authorities denied REUTER's report regarding severe fighting between soldiers and Kurdish irregulars in and around the city of Mehabad. Iranian authorities are saying that positions in and around Mehabad were quiet last night, but that scattered encounters have taken place in Kurdish-settled areas of west Azerbaijan.

9553

CSD: 4906

RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT SEEN GAINING IN NEXT ELECTION

Tel Aviv HATZOFER in Hebrew 7 Sep 80 p 1

[Article: "R. Ben Natan, General Secretary of Hapo'el Hamizrahi: Religious Judaism Will Come out of the Coming Elections Stronger"]

[Text] Refa'el Ben Natan, secretary general of Hapo'el Hamizrahi, in conversation with "Weekly Diary," said that as it turned out, not only would NRP not be weakened by the affair of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, but that it would come out of the coming elections strengthened.

He explained that many religious Jews had been hurt by the recent affair, and that they would at last understand that their natural place was in NRP. The speaker compared this phenomenon to persecutions of Jews in the Diaspora, which strengthened and united Jews, so that the more they were persecuted, the more they reacted with loyalty to Judaism.

Professor Yitzhak Shamir, Judicial Advisor to the Government, told "Weekly Diary" that the reports that are being published about this affair in the news media are unnecessarily and unjustifiably harming persons whose names are involved in the affair. These reports also harm police work and impair the investigation, Professor Shamir added.

[Comment of Minister of Interior]

"At my age and as an experienced public servant I am not frightened by the arrows that are aimed at me; some arrows are weak and some are poisoned," said Dr Yosef Burg, minister of Interior, when he was asked to comment on the investigation of the Ministry of Religious Affairs. "I think these arrows are made of paper, spittle, and baseless defamation." When asked whether he wanted to continue to be considered Number One in NRP, Mr Burg said: "It is desirable that they should all continue to consider me Number One, and that's how it will be with the help of God and the voters." "Someone is stirring things up on the inside, and even so, there has never been such a period of internal peace in NRP as there is today."

"They simply picked a young Sephardic minister, and decided to gain control of him, as though saying, 'Let's get them,' in order to get rid of him," said Asher Lazimi, deputy secretary of NRP, to "Weekly Diary." The speaker defined the investigation of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Minister Abu Hatzelrah as "a war of Ashkenazim against Sephardim."

"What answer could I give in this matter other than an ethnic one?" said Mr Lazimi, emphasizing that never before had there been an attack on a government ministry such as the present one on the Ministry of Religious Affairs. "We are suffering because the minister is Sephardic and has brought in many Sephardi assistants. So what could I say when they asked me if this is an ethnic matter? Let us hope that it may be proved false," he added.

9045

CSO: 4805

BRIEFS

POLL ON BEGIN--The public opinion poll quoted last night by Prime Minister Begin proudly at the "Meqed" program, where he said that the poll put him in second place in performance in the state of Israel, actually gives one of the lowest marks in the list of personalities. In the poll, which was conducted by Dr Mina Tzemah on behalf of the Van Leer Foundation, respondents were asked to grade various persons on the quality of their performance. Begin got seventh place, behind Shlomo Lahat, mayor of Tel Aviv, and Minister Sharon. The poll was taken in March 1979. Top grade went to President Navon (92.8%), next to Weizman (81.6%) who was still serving as Minister of Defense; Teddy Koller (80.2%), Chief of Staff Eytan (75.4%), Shlomo Lahat (65.9%), Arik Sharon (60.2%), and Begin (57.8%). Another question dealt with rating different persons according to their faithfulness to "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Here Begin got third place (62.9%), after Navon (84.4%), Koller (63.5%), and ahead of Rafi (62.4%). It should be noted that Rabin and Peres got lower marks than Begin in the two polls; Rabin was ahead of Peres. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Sep 80 p 1] 9045

KIBBUTZ OPINION ON GOLAN--At yesterday's executive committee session of Kibbutz Artzi at Kibbutz Artzi House in Tel Aviv, Dov Peleg, secretary of Kibbutz Artzi (KA), read the KA resolutions on the proposal to impose Israeli law in Ramat Hagolan: "The Executive Committee of KA supports the MAPAM position that the final boundary of the Golan Heights shall be a vital component of any peace agreement with Syria. Nevertheless, KA opposes the creation of conditions that will prevent any negotiations. Therefore, we oppose the initiative that has just been taken, which is harmful and unnecessary, to impose Israeli law in the Golan Heights. There is danger that additional political legislation like the "Jerusalem law," which the MAPAM Knesset members voted against, will cause Israel additional political damage that will be hard to repair. KA reaffirms its stand behind the "Kibbutz Geshur" policy, which calls on all the settlers in the Golan Heights to declare that no settlements there will become an obstacle to peace. KA sees it as its duty to influence all elements that undertake peace negotiations on behalf of Israel with Syria, to achieve vital boundary adjustments for the sake of the security of the State of Israel. [Text] [AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Sep 80 p 1] 9045

NATURAL GAS--Tests carried out yesterday at Drilling Site Notarah One, in the Huleh valley, indicate good prospects for finding natural gas in commercial quantities. Gas is flowing from the bore without difficulty. The opening was shut yesterday, until a decision is taken whether or not to continue drilling in this field. According to the program already announced, additional drilling was to be carried out in the 'Emeq Huleh district in October, but after yesterday's results, it is possible that the additional drilling may be started sooner. The drilling equipment that dug Notarah One was supposed to move on to another site, but in view of the finds the drilling program may be changed. Only in the near future will details be available on the quantities of gas in 'Emeq Huleh. A person involved in the drilling said yesterday to a HA'ARETZ reporter that if the results at the other drilling sites will be like those already obtained, then there are good prospects for a substantial gas field in the 'Emeq Huleh district. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Aug 80 p 1] 9045

1979 PRODUCTIVITY RISE--At the session of the supreme commission on strengthening the productivity of labor and manufacturing, headed by the Minister of Labor and Social Betterment, Dr Larnel Katz, with the participation of representatives of government, employers, and the Histadrut, Israel Medan, general manager of the institute of labor and manufacturing productivity, reported yesterday that in 1979 there was almost no increase in productivity, and that the increase in the business sector was only 1 percent. He pointed especially to the 2 percent increase in the industrial branch, which contrasts with decreases of 1 percent in agriculture and 8 percent in construction. He said that some of the moderate increase could be attributed to lack of exploitation of production resources and manpower, due to the economic slowdown at the end of 1979. Another reason is the unfulfilled expansion of manufacturing after many workers had been hired by industry and construction in hopes of such expansion. Dan Prufer, the employers' representative, reported that the public now recognizes the importance of the effort to raise labor productivity, and with properly integrated publicity it should be possible to promote this subject. He mentioned, among other things, an experiment at his firm in which the installation of air conditioning increased labor productivity substantially. Sha'ul Ben Simhon, Histadrut representative, emphasized the need to examine the recommendations of previous commissions, to learn which ones had been recommended for immediate implementation, and why they had not been implemented. Attorney Nahman 'Uri, of the Ministry of Labor, emphasized that there are legal arrangements in existing collective agreements that make increases in productivity possible, and the reasons why these have not been implemented should be investigated. In its coming sessions the commission will concentrate on prevention of absenteeism, problems of shift labor, work load and productivity, climate and productivity, and motivation of industrial workers. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Aug 80 p 3] 9045

ISLAMIC COUNCIL CHAIRMAN INTERVIEWED ON VARIOUS ISSUES

Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 10 Jul 80 p 15

[Interview With Shafiq al-Wazzan, Islamic Council Chairman and Islamic Grouping Member; "Islamic Council Chairman to AL-HADAF: Dialogue With Lebanese Front Has Its Conditions; South Is Wailing Wall and Extortion Card and Solution Is in Striking Zionism and U.S. Presence"]

[Text] Beirut--AL-QUDS PRESS-- AL-HADAF correspondent has carried the issues of detente, formation of the new government, the army, the situation in the Lebanese National Movement, the Islamic visualization of the solution for the security problems on the Lebanese arena, the south in the wake of the repeated Zionist attacks and of the occupation of part of its territories, the dialogue with the isolationist forces, the ceaseless contacts between the National Movement and the Islamic Grouping and other issues to Lawyer Shafiq al-Wazzan, the Islamic Council chairman and the Islamic Grouping member, for a comprehensive interview. Following is the text of the interview:

Talk of Detente

[Question] There has been increased talk about detente recently even though nothing new has developed in this regard. Does this mean an attempt on the part of the authority [government] to drug the citizens or are there practical steps heading toward implementation.

[Answer] This question, especially the second part, would be better answered by the government officials because they are the ones in possession of the facts and the plans that enable them to say whether there are such steps or not. As for the increased talk about detente, this is natural because what do we expect of a patient other than the talk about health, recovery and the means of treatment to attain such recovery. Perhaps it was the epitome in which the will of the Lebanese was reaffirmed when this will agreed to support the principles of detente declared by the president of the republic on 5 March 1980. These principles were supported again in the recent consultations urged by President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Huss. As a result of these consultations, the two have gained new approval coupled, insofar as some people are concerned, with signing the exact minutes of the consultations.

Those Obstructing Legitimacy

[Question] In your view, which are the forces obstructing detente?

[Answer] I prefer to have the question ask: Which are the influential forces obstructing detente? This phrasing would include the political forces and the military forces. Essentially, detente means a return to legitimacy and acknowledgement of all the authorities of this legitimacy. If these forces declare their support for the principles of detente, then we expect them to be true to their word and to abstain, even abandon, any actions that oppose the legitimacy [legitimate government] or that are in conflict with it. Any side that fails to do so would be the side obstructing the legitimacy. I have previously said that we, the Muslims are used to taking off our shoes before we enter any holy place. Therefore, whoever wants to enter the "sanctity" of the legitimacy must shun whatever is not compatible with it. The obstructionists, in my view, are those who do not abide by this rule.

Continuous Plot

[Question] What is the Islamic Grouping's evaluation of the current situation on the Lebanese arena in the wake of the intensifying security incidents in the nationalist areas and what are the means to contain such incidents?

[Answer] First, I would like to make it clear that I am not talking in the name of the Islamic Grouping but that I am expressing my view as a member of this grouping. Our evaluation of what is happening in our area is derived from our unchanging view, namely that we are living under a continuous plot that serves neither the Lebanese interest nor the Arab interest, including the Palestinian interest.

(Al-Wazzan added) An image occurs to my mind here. It is as if the plotters have succeeded in taking Lebanon's page and tearing it into two parts and then tearing each part into two more parts and so on. They will continue in this course until the page is torn into shreds, until Lebanon disappears and until all the goals of the plot aimed against the Lebanese people and the Palestinian people are realized. Many may have been dragged into this game unwittingly and as a result of real patriotic enthusiasm. Others may be hirelings or agents who perform their role to serve the plot and the enemies. A flagrant example is Sa'd Haddad and the border militias.

Dialogue That Brings Us Closer

[Question] It is rumored that the bridges of dialogue have been extended between western and eastern Beirut but that the isolationist forces constantly claim that there isn't a legitimate Muslim side to hold the dialogue with. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] When the turn of dialogue comes and when the Islamic Grouping becomes convinced of the inevitability of the dialogue, then this grouping will not hesitate and will not engage in the dialogue secretly. In fact, there is no contact between the grouping and the Lebanese Front. It is true that

some members of the Lebanese Front declared at the outset of the events that the Muslims do not have those who speak in their name. This was during the period of feverish arrogance. But after the tempera cooled, we have heard more than one appeal inviting the "Islamic Grouping" as the side to hold the dialogue on the part of the Muslims to reach agreement. The Islamic Grouping has even been censured for allowing itself to sit with the Palestinian resistance leaders and not with the Lebanese Front members. The truth is that there are several reasons that have obstructed and that continue to obstruct such a dialogue whose time has not come yet because the Lebanese Front still has weapons in its hand whereas the Islamic Grouping has never resorted to arms. In the supreme interest and in the interest of those for whom the grouping speaks, the grouping doesn't find it appropriate that one of the two sides engaged in the dialogue be armed while the other is not, not to mention other matters that are very important to us and that require a frank position--meaning the dealings with the Zionist entity and the position that should be taken in this regard in the wake of Sa'd Haddad's and others' involvement in such dealings in an obvious manner with any condemnation or objection [by the Lebanese Front]. Add to this that at the present time, we all follow the path of agreeing on legitimacy, represented in the government which has laid down certain rules for this agreement which we have all accepted. Beginning the implementation of this agreement will place us naturally on a path, which we hope will be long, serving Lebanon and its national causes. We believe that after all the events and lessons we have gone through we must turn a new leaf on the basis of the same principles on which Lebanon the homeland was established in 1943--meaning a homeland that is not the base nor the path for imperialism and a homeland in which all coexist in love and with constant aspiration for marching toward equality, fusion and faith in this affiliation with the Arab homeland surrounding us. These rules will lead us all toward a dialogue for which, we hope, the time will come through the way each of us conducts himself to bring that day closer.

Principles and Ideas

[Question] The governmental [cabinet] situation is attracting at present all the official and partisan attention. Is there a certain candidate for the Islamic Grouping or do you support Prime Minister al'Husni? What, in your opinion, is the solution: A national unity government or a government of political leaderships [fa'alliyat]?

Focusing on Principles and Ideas

[Answer] First, the governmental [cabinet] situation is undoubtedly the focus of everybody's attention. Insofar as the Islamic Grouping is concerned, what is of sole concern to me in the candidate for the premiership is that he possess the qualities that enable him--through ability, experience, integrity and moderation--to shoulder the responsibilities existing under the present conditions. The candidate should also be able to attract as many forces as possible in order to bolster legitimacy's march toward restoring all its powers and toward establishing these powers in all parts of the country. By virtue of the nature of its structure, it is natural for the Islamic Grouping

not to follow the course of nominating a certain candidate and to focus its attention on the principles and ideas by which a candidate abides and through which he expresses the will of those he represents and through which he aspires to serve Lebanon sincerely and serve the issues that concern Lebanon at a level that preserves the good relationship with the Arab brothers and preserves the role that the Arab brothers expect Lebanon to play--a role which we have always described as a vanguard role and which we hope Lebanon will regain when it regains its health.

Army for All

[Question] The army crisis continues to be a basic obstacle in which there has been no change. The political Maronism is still sitting atop the army's throne and engaging in sectarian and factional practices in the army. What is your opinion regarding the army issue and how do you view the army's future?

[Answer] The way the question is phrased gives the impression that nothing at all has changed insofar as the issue of this establishment is concerned--an establishment to which we give the major importance in any new upsurge in Lebanon's life. The truth is that the new defense law has made an important stride in laying the basis for building the army on sound and safe foundations. We expected organizational decrees to be issued in a quick succession that provides the opportunity for building this establishment in a manner that pleases us all--a manner that pleases us not as Muslims nor as Christians but pleases us nationally because we aspire for the army to be the living model for how all the legitimate establishments should be. The soldier who pawns his blood does so for the sake of Lebanon and not for the sake of a certain sect. This is why our hopes have been attached to the structure of this army. We do not want any step in this structure to shock us. On the contrary, we want every step to bolster confidence in this army so that all may rally behind it and so that it may be acceptable to all as the state's military arm which protects the borders against the Zionist enemy and preserves the [state's] sovereignty.

South Is Extortion Card

[Question] How do you view the developments in the situation in the south after the intensified Zionist shelling and "nibbling" operations against the southern territories--operations whose effects have reached Sidon--at a time when Arab, international and official Lebanese silence prevails insofar as this situation is concerned?

[Answer] This poor south has turned into a wailing and moaning wall, as if dignity and sovereignty are realized only through wailing and moaning, even at the walls of the United Nations and of its poor Security Council. I do not at all agree with the word 'silence' contained in the question. It is unfair to forget the Lebanese, Islamic and friendly statements and moves made regarding whatever concerns us, whether in the south or elsewhere. As for the Palestinian issue which has collided with [irtatamat] with the issue

of the south in one way or another, the word silence must be replaced by the word strangulation [khang]. All the resolutions issued in the interest of the south or in the interest of the Palestinian brothers have been strangled by a giant who turns dwarf in the face of Zionism and becomes an instrument in its hand, never hesitating to use the "veto" to strangle all resolutions—a giant that then turns again mighty in every form of aid it advances to the Zionist entity.

The south is an extortion card to which the Zionist enemy wants to cling through coordination and agreement with the United States. If we want to save the south, then we should stop weeping and wailing and should look for the means with which to strike the hand of the Zionist enemy and of the United States so that we may loosen its grip, make it abandon the card of the south and give the opportunity to right to prevail.

Grouping and National Movement

[Question] What is your view of the changes that have taken place in the Lebanese National Movement and do these changes mean the presence of differences inside the Central Political Council of the national and progressive parties and forces?

[Answer] These changes are an organizational matter that concerns the parties operating within this framework--matters in which we do not interfere and on which we express no opinion. All that we hope for is that we all agree on serving Lebanon and the other issues that concern us sincerely and selflessly.

[Question] Is there coordination between the Islamic Grouping and the Lebanese National Movement?

[Answer] Coordination in its organized sense does not exist at present even though I tried at the time of the late Kamal Junblatt to perform a role of the kind in my capacity as chairman of the Islamic Council. Were it not for some simple differences, we would find that we are essentially proceeding along the same national and pan-Arab line despite some actions that took place outside this framework [at times]. We used to draw attention to such actions in order to serve the supreme interest which we aspire for. Now we find that the conditions through which we have passed have narrowed the gap of difference in ideas and means [between us] and some prominent leaders of the National Movement, especially in the wake of the meetings that have taken place between Walid Junblatt, the Socialist Progressive Party chairman, the Islamic Grouping and the Front for Preservation of the South--meetings that have brought many of the views, visualizations and aspirations closer to each other.

LEBANESE FRONT'S TELEVISION DISCUSSED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 4-10 Aug 80 p 13

[Article: "'Free Lebanon Television' Awaiting Right Circumstances"]

[Text] The Lebanese Front's television has started its tests on channel 12 which the authority has tried to use.

After Charles Rizq, the chairman of the board of directors of the Lebanese Television, submitted his resignation in the wake of the kidnapping to which he had been subjected 2 weeks ago and during which, it is said, he was told by the Lebanese Forces to stop operating channel 12 and to leave it free for the experimental transmission of the Free Lebanon Television, another issue emerged--an issue which all have thought to be a mere maneuver or a mere experiment which the Lebanese Front has wanted to carry out after the success of the Voice of Lebanon Radio and the subsequent emergence of the "Voice of the Free Lebanon" a few years later.

It is evident in this case that the front, in the wake of its success in the sphere of radio information, has sought to expand the sphere of its work by setting up a television company with a board of directors consisting of the front's partisans--a television company that propagates the front's policy and supports its positions. Numerous journalists have noticed that the important events and occasions have been recorded on videotapes by cameras bearing the symbol [words dropped], i.e. the symbol of the Free Lebanon Television and that most of these films and tapes have been recorded for storage and for the archives.

What is the truth of the preparations for this television?

It is certain that the Lebanese Forces have purchased 80 percent of the equipment from France, the FRG, Britain, the United States and Italy. The help of German experts has been employed to select the transmission site. The cost has reached nearly 2 million [Lebanese] pounds so far. It is said that three centers are already prepared: The Teachers Institute in Junyah where the Educational Television Center has been set aside for film making, a center in Adunis for management, editorial and production and one of Kasrawan's mountaintops for transmission.

But contrary to what has been said, the board of directors has not been formed yet because several proposals are still under discussion. The responsibilities have not been distributed either. As for the experimental transmission, it has been shifting from channel to channel for more than a year with the aim of selecting the most suitable wavelength. But on the other hand, the state has resorted to jamming this transmission, especially on the channels used for experimental transmission, with the aim of preventing the danger of the seizure of these channels. It is said that the technicians have been inclined toward channel 12 because it has remained unused for a long time and because the technical resources are suitable for it. This is why the disagreement took place with Rizq who, on the instructions of the higher authorities, had put into operation every channel likely to be selected by the Lebanese Forces.

The starting date for transmission has not been set yet because the start is awaiting three things: The decision to start operation which can be taken only with the unanimous approval of all the Lebanese Front's leaders, the opportune political circumstance and, especially, completion of the equipment. It must be pointed out that a number of technicians have been sent to attend training courses abroad and that it is not unlikely that technicians who had worked previously in the Lebanese Television and left it during the events because of their partisan affiliation will be used.

It seems that few people have viewed the experimental transmission which has never been announced. Few people have picked up the transmission accidentally and have found that it focuses at times on the slogan of the Lebanese Forces or shows one of the tapes recorded during an important occasion.

8494

CSO: 4802

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS SAID TO BE DETERIORATING

Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 11-17 Aug 80 p 36

[Article: "Economy: Maelstrom of Starting Anew"]

[Text] The security setbacks are almost timed to sabotage whatever remains of the seasons of the Lebanese economy which has been dragging its tragedies for 5 years.

Between the end of 1977 and the end of 1979, missed profits in the Lebanese exports sector as a result of security setbacks have been estimated at 2.5 billion pounds. The figure rises to nearly 5 billion Lebanese pounds for the entire Lebanese production, of which the exports constitute one half. The figure may even double if the other economic sectors, such as tourism, trade and public utilities, as well as the drop in the productivity of the fundamentally limited public sector, are taken into consideration.

This year's events have had no less effect than the events of the past 2 years. Perhaps this year's events have been even more serious and severe. Enduring these events--not to mention the anticipation of more such events and the accompanying fear and refrainment from the implementation of any long-range projects--is almost a miracle.

These events have caused the Lebanese economy to lose its components and have deprived it of the element of growth because they have covered the entire homeland and because they have (erupted simultaneously throughout the country at times and erupted in different parts at other times).

Perhaps the first negative aspect resulting from these setbacks is the undermining of any long-range plan. Economic planning is based on clear vision in the medium and long range to realize balance in production, to study costs and to assess transmitted profits. But the continued lack of security has turned the Lebanese economy into the pawn of circumstances, or rather this economy has become an impulsive economy. This pattern under which the Lebanese economy lives spurs the investor to produce by any means and at any cost to secure a quick profit capable of yielding the capital before the anticipated destruction hits his establishment.

Tourism Is Victim

This pattern of pressure planning is evident in the industrial sector which is one of the most heavily damaged sectors and which faces difficulties in growth, in production, in marketing and in labor as a result of the weakened production structures causing productivity to drop to a level below that of 1977. These difficulties have caused the Lebanese commodity to be unable to compete with similar commodities in the Arab markets.

Perhaps the connection of the industrial sector with the facts of the security conditions and the ability of this sector to overcome to a degree the negative effects of these conditions and to adapt to the pattern imposed on it have made it possible for this sector to continue producing until now. But what is true in the industrial sector can [not] be true to the tourism sector, for example.

The tourism sector is the sector most heavily damaged so far, not as a result of the tourist installations that have been destroyed or damaged but primarily as a result of the change in the tourism conditions provided under a state of security. This is why the type of the clientele of hotels and tourist establishments has changed and has turned from foreign clientele, especially Arab clientele, into a local clientele, with the exception of foreign business men who stop over in Beirut and spend a few days in it. The Beirut hotels occupancy rate has dropped from 65 percent before 1975 to nearly 20 percent at present whereas the Mount Lebanon hotels, especially in the areas experiencing security setbacks [sic], have continued to operate beyond capacity as a result of those fleeing the events. What is said about these hotels can also be said about the summer resort towns which have been emptied by the war from their multinational tourists with their various fashions, dialects, customs and traditions and have been turned into a void aspiring for vitality and into resorts where terror, fear and escape take refuge. These are elements that have changed the features of the tourism map.

With the extension of the security setbacks to new areas, the modern tourist facilities on the coast and in the mountains have also been exposed to damage. What draws attention about these setbacks is that they assume at the outset of every summer a more violent character than in the winter, thus certain areas benefit from the monies of those who can even hardly secure their sustenance.

Links to Outside World

One of the negative aspects of the security setbacks is that they have delayed the phase of reconstruction which requires nearly 20 billion pounds to restore all the sectors to their conditions before the events. Since the creation of the Development Board in March 1977, this board has not been able to carry out a single project to rebuild what has been destroyed, except for restoring the official administrations and independent establishments, enlarging the airport, restoring the port and controlling the loans concluded to implement projects on the Lebanese soil.

The halt of projects in Lebanon narrows, in addition to the employment market, the opportunity for the Lebanese banks to invest their assets. This has motivated these banks to invest these assets abroad instead of investing them in the national economy. This inclination became evident in 1979. In 1978, loans to the outside world rose by 282 million pounds compared to loans of 1,873,000,000 pounds advanced to the national economy whereas the increase in foreign loans amounted in 1979 to 3,327,000,000 pounds compared to 1,102,000,000 pounds in loans to the national economy. In January and February 1980, the foreign loans rose by 721 million pounds compared to a rise of 495 million pounds for the national economy. This explains the rise in the price of foreign currencies and the drop in the value of the Lebanese pound in the exchange market. All of this has intensified inflation and has created in the banks a surplus that has not flowed into the investment channel.

The public utilities have also suffered heavy damage, beginning with the ports--especially Beirut port which has suffered and continues to suffer heavily from any security setback in either of Beirut's two areas. There has been an obvious drop in the number of ships and in their load capacity since last May whereas ships had to wait for their turn at the piers in March and April. Moreover, work has been paralyzed in Sidon port and affected in Tripoli port. Even though work at Beirut airport stopped only during the recent strike, the events have had an effect on both aircraft and passenger traffic--and ending with the private sectors and the public utilities. There is also the effect of the events on the public sector and on paralyzing its administrative work as a result of the negligence and chaos caused by the events, especially in the ministries and departments performing public services.

Corrupt Administration

There remains the Lebanese administration which has become more paralyzed and corrupt under the impact of the events. The departments performing public services have reached the point where they no longer deal with the problems of the infrastructures with the same determination they used to display before the events. The only concern of all civil servants, both high-ranking and minor and officials and of officials in charge and subordinates, has become that of accumulating money either by demanding increased wages and allowances for extra responsibilities or through illicit means.

No department or agency is free of the greed for money--a greed that has turned into a common factor among all the administrations. In the real estate offices, no transaction is concluded before the "fees" for it are paid. In the financial departments, no fee or tax can be paid easily and no formality can be performed without waiting in desk drawers for days, if not lost. In the electricity and water agencies, the departments of the Ministry of Public Works, the State Employees Cooperative, the Ministry of Social Affairs and in all the other departments, there are middlemen and specialists who perform the formalities in return for extra wages, especially in the Vehicle Registration Agency. Matters have reached the point where the civil servants have

turned into "honorary employees" attracted to their jobs by nothing other than their monthly wages and by their influence that has turned into a pipeline through which money flows into their pockets, as is the case in the Customs Department, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Economy and Commerce.

As for the Lebanese citizen, he has turned into the sole victim that endures the consequences of all of this. This citizen perhaps pays the highest tip, not to say bribe, in the world in order to be able to pay his due taxes and fees. Meanwhile, the public services are in a constant state of chaos. Roads have turned into furrows. Electricity, despite the new equipment and the increase in its prices, is still subject to outages. Often, the capacity drops below 90 volts and paralyzes industrial production. Fuel crises are successive and only death is less difficult than getting medical care. Price control, drugs, [social] insurance formalities performed and other services have become impossible.

Whenever a complaint is voiced, the official in charge has one of two answers: It is either that "the number of employees is inadequate" or "what do you want us to do?" And each official has a partisan group backing him. We should keep in mind, though, that the number of civil servants in the Lebanese administration exceeds the required number by nearly 13,000 civil servants.

8494

CSO: 4802

NEW HEAD OF MARONITE ORDER ELECTED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 4-10 Aug 80 p 13

[Article: "Maronite Order Has Won 'Holy Spirit'"]

[Text] Politics Stayed out of the Maronite Order retreat during which the order's new head was elected. Will the new head do the same [stay out of politics]?

On 30 August, the Maronite Order concluded a retreat which it had convened on 28 August [date as given, see publication's date] to elect Father Bulus Nu'man as its general head for 6 years to replace Abbot Sharbil Qassis. The synod also elected the following four new directors: Ilyas Khalifah, director and general deputy; Athanasyus Jalakh, Antunyus al-Sayfi and Tuma Muhanna as general directors.

The election session was headed by Bishop George Abu-Sabir, the Bishop of Latakia, on assignment from the (eastern synod) in Rome. In a speech preceding the vote, the bishop stressed the church's spiritual and social responsibilities in compliance with the instructions of Pope Paul II.

But the preparations for the elections had actually started 15 days before convocation of the synod and numerous names were presented. However, serious competition was confined to Abbot Qassis and Father Nu'man. Efforts were exerted with Qassis to persuade him to withdraw and support a third name but those efforts failed, keeping in mind that Qassis needed two thirds the votes for his renewal to be legal whereas a new head requires only one half the votes plus one vote to be elected.

When Qassis stressed that he would continue the campaign, which remained calm and which was described as having been characterized by an "athletic and priestly spirit," all exerted efforts to keep the elections within the synod and to keep them remote from the charged atmosphere between the Maronites. There was also agreement between the candidates to reject any intervention by Maronite politicians to tip the balances in favor of a certain candidate so that such a candidate's loss may not be considered an act aimed against those supporting him and so that the Maronite divisions may not get deeper.

Positive Points for Qassis

Those supporting Qassis's return consider the positions he has taken during the Lebanese war, especially the two-year war, positions dictated by the circumstances. In Qassis's opinion, the Maronite sect has been in danger and the Maronite Order can do nothing but take a clear position and cannot claim to be neutral. In this particular sphere, Qassis has disagreed with the Maronite Patriarch more than once and their positions have been contrasting. Qassis's supporters also underline the flexibility and wisdom with which he has dealt with the inter-Maronite conflict that has caused the north to break away from the Lebanese Front. Qassis has maintained normal relations with all. It is also the opinion of Qassis's supporters that the country is undergoing at present conditions similar to those prevailing during the two-year war. Consequently, he must continue to be present.

But another current has risen to demand reconsideration of the order's role and to stress the need for focusing on its spiritual and social message and for continuing its equal relationship with all and without any discrimination. Abbot Butrus al-Qazzi, president of the Holy Spirit University, had visited the north a week earlier and had explored ex-President Sulayman Franjijah's opinion on the election of Nu'man. The ex-president assured Abbot al-Qazzi his respect for the rule of nonintervention and the need for the new order head to serve all the Maronites and not to succumb to the logic of one of their factions.

The elections did take place and Nu'man won by a vote of 47 compared to 40 votes for Abbot Qassis. Two votes were cast for Father Basil Hashim who had withdrawn in favor of Nu'man. During the synod retreat, Qassis was careful to display his continuing good relations with Nu'man and to congratulate him immediately upon his success.

In the address he made following his election, Nu'man stressed: "We are not for one faction or area but for all factions and areas." It has been noticed that the competition between the areas was not sharp during the elections even though the monks of Byblos supported Qassis and those of al-Shuf supported Nu'man. However, the political inclinations were not evident.

It is known that Nu'man is a specialist in Maronite history and that he is preparing a plan for the order's future work. Politically, the question still raised is: Will he take part in the Lebanese Front meetings even though some know that he has no admiration for some of the traditional leaders?

It seems that the Holy Spirit University has emerged triumphant in these elections. Father Tuma Muhanna is dean of the university's School of Philosophy, father Ilyas Khalifah is the dean of its School of Theology and Abbot Nu'man is the dean of the university's History School.

THEORY BEHIND REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES EXPLAINED

Tripoli AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in Arabic 21 Jul 80 pp 8-9, 2

[Article by Ahmad Ibrahim: "Why the Revolutionary Committees?"]

[Text] The revolutionary man will not be able to bring about revolutionary change, exercise force, or deal with the circumstances of society in general unless there is a definite program to which this revolutionary and other revolutionaries are committed so that their action will be productive.

So that the revolutionary's action will not be suicidal and hopeless, he resorts to establishing a program of action which unites him with his fellow revolutionaries. By so doing, they define their methods of action and the goals they are endeavoring to achieve, and they establish a precise timetable for these tasks based on exhaustive study conducted by the revolutionaries in the light of their understanding of revolutionary theory.

The uniting of a group of revolutionaries around a daily and weekly program of action which they derive from revolutionary theory is manifested in the emergence of the revolutionary group or the formation of the revolutionary committee.

The formation of the revolutionary committee is not prompted by a feeling of danger or threat which intimidates the adherent of the mass revolutionary ideology, nor is it motivated by a feeling of isolation. Its goal is not to create a degree of isolation from society by creating a conditional and inverted social entity with the aim of producing a human type who will not hesitate to carry out the tasks assigned to him because of the subconscious way which the idea of membership in this new group and the principles of the group have gained over his thinking. Such is the case in the various party organizations and in all political and social groups and organizations that evolve with the goal of creating a substitute for the social entity of the people.

Such groups and organizations carry out their tasks and win their honors on the pretext of the inability of the people as a whole to carry out

tasks, which are thus entrusted to party or other organizations. This is used to provide a justification for requiring the people to respect the traditions of such organizations and to believe blindly in their laws and ceremonies. (For they are, in any case, the people's means of obtaining their rights and the people's avenue to freedom!)

Therefore, the political organizations exploit the traditional loyalty of the people and the society for their benefit, designating the right to act on this loyalty as their own. Until these political organizations come to power, it is wrong to confer respect and loyalty on other groups, including even the society itself. Each organization claims to have emerged for the benefit of society, maintaining that the society is caught in a bad and unsuitable stage from which the organization wishes to save it. Thus, it is right and necessary that this political organization should take the place of the society, and consequently, that its laws and ceremonies should take the place of those of society.

This is nothing other than a type of heresy, the results of which can be seen in all parties: the creation of an impotent and fanatical human type who does not believe in the people and strives to seize power on the strength of his suppressed feeling. This feeling makes him believe that he is a member of the vanguard and the elite, and that he is not like the masses and the simple-minded rabble who do not understand anything. However, duty calls him to think for the masses and lead them where he wishes.

His people, brothers and friends are not the members of his nation but rather the members of his party--those who are like him and agree with him! Stated very briefly, this organization is a new tribe, preparing its members to seize power and feeding them with ideas which enjoin them to isolate themselves from society by creating a new group that is different from it and a substitute for it.

This dilemma is rejected by the revolutionary committees.

The member of the revolutionary committee is nothing more than a herald or a teacher. He uncovers the unjust principles and rouses the people to destroy them. Moreover, he takes part in the destruction of these principles as a member of the masses.

He urges the masses to establish the revolutionary laws, which are the principles of justice, and he performs his part in establishing them as a member of the masses. For all of these reasons, he does not feel that he is isolated or separated from society. Rather, the welfare of this people--members of his nation--motivates him to arouse them and encourage them and lead them to remedy their problems. He does not think for them or belong to a group which is a substitute for society.

On the contrary, the revolutionary committees are themselves established because of a belief in the people and their ability to liberate themselves and out of a sense of belonging to the people.

The basic motive for the emergence of the revolutionary committees is a desire to attain the lofty goals of society in order to achieve happiness for man. What is it that motivates the sacrifice made by the members of the revolutionary committees if not a belief in the legitimate rights of the masses, including the personal rights of each of these members as an individual member of the masses?

When revolutionaries form a revolutionary committee, it is their means of teaching the best way for the masses to overcome oppression so that others will not be prompted to form a group to take the place of the people.

They provide their countrymen with the model and the example of the sound way to bring about the revolution, namely, by creating people's conferences, which are an objective that the revolutionary committees strive to achieve.

How the Revolutionary Committees Work

There are no differences among the members of the revolutionary committees, and there is no pyramidal or other type of organizational arrangement in these committees.

The revolutionary committee meets as a whole whenever possible, or some members are commissioned to carry out an action when it is impossible for the committee to undertake it as a group. The revolutionary committees have no form of official leadership, that is, a leadership which requires order, obedience and subordination. This is the customary type of leadership in the traditional political organizations, whose purposes have now become obsolete.

The leadership which the revolutionary committees are working to develop is the revolutionary leadership alluded to earlier. This leadership does not arise out of a need for order or obedience, or from a desire for subordination, or in order to garner individual or group benefits and gains of whatever sort. It develops out of a desire to arrive at the truth, and it develops naturally without any decision to establish it from any source.

Thus, the work of the revolutionary committees is organized in accordance with the comprehensive and scientific revolutionary theory embodied in the Green Book. Their first duty is to establish the power of the people by creating a system of government by the people through the popular conferences which make decisions, and the popular committees which carry out these decisions. A second duty of the revolutionary committees is to defend the potentials of the people by inciting them to perfect the wealth and weapons which are the means by which they wield power, and by fighting and destroying any deviation which hinders or blocks the complete realization of the power of the people. The latter will be accomplished through the revolutionary committees' fulfillment of the duty of

revolutionary supervision. This duty is performed by the revolutionary committees because of the consciousness and knowledge they have gained through the study of revolutionary theory and through their continuous work among the masses to incite them to revolution and the use of force against the symbols of backwardness and the manifestations of oppression that distort the life of the masses and undermine their future.

Do the Committees Exercise Revolutionary Force?

The revolutionary committees are the revolutionary leadership of the popular masses and they lead the masses in the phase of revolution. This includes guiding the exercise of force through the popular masses so that the force will be productive, humane and effective on the psychological and cultural level.

As was explained earlier, no one--whoever he may be--has the right to act in the place of the people. This is a sound principle which will prevent the revolutionary committees from ever becoming capable of acting on their own apart from the ocean of the masses surging through the new life which the revolutionary committees are struggling to create in this new age--the age of the masses. From this role entrusted to the revolutionary committees, we realize that they must employ force. However, this will not be the traditional kind of force, such as that which political groups have used in the past, first against others who used it and then against the people themselves. Such groups are captivated by the love of power and sense their separation from the masses. This is a calamitous phenomenon from which the majority of political organizations still suffer. I would like to call this the "antithesis," by which I mean the political organization's carrying out of the function and role of the political forces which it was fighting.

Thus, a political organization criticizes despotic forces, saying that they oppress and subjugate the people, and find justification to use force against these forces until they overturn them in some way. Then it becomes apparent that the demands of the masses have not been met. An inconsistency develops, and the political organization which has gained control can find no other way--according to its arguments--to defend the revolution and the revolutionary accomplishments, than to use force against the masses to prevent them from destroying the marvelous accomplishments achieved by the political organization!

There is no way to escape from this maelstrom of political action except by eliminating the mission of the violent political organizations, which is to attain power, and by obliterating the old mobilizational and ideological methods which set the political activists and revolutionaries apart from the masses by separating their group from that of the society.

This means that the function of political action is to bring the popular masses to power by organizing them into people's conferences. This is

the only democratic and progressive method that a revolutionary can possibly employ, respect and strive to put into effect.

Past and contemporary experiences have taught us the reasons for the failure of political activity and the collapse of the great ideas in the life of our oppressed mankind. With this, all theories have become mere clichés without any spirit and without anything to attract us, like paper dolls or pretty artificial flowers.

We no longer wish to experience additional failures, and we do not have time to waste on futile struggles.

Organization of the Revolutionary Committees

The revolutionary committee begins as a political and practical framework, sometimes with only one individual who then calls on others with similar characteristics to join him. As mentioned earlier, these are individuals who have attained [word illegible] of the political, economic and social systems prevailing in their communities through study of the Green Book. This study of the Green Book has also provided them with an alternative to these corrupt systems. Their presence together constituted a compact guaranteeing the destruction of the society of exploitation, oppression and backwardness and the building of the new socialist society heralded by the Green Book.

The appeal--whether by an individual or by a group--was made to tell others about the values of the era of the masses. And whether the appeal was open or secret, by direct personal contact or through indirect means, it was the method by which the revolutionary committees organized themselves.

The model and example of skill and method is one means of heralding the new thinking.

This review of the characteristics of the revolutionary committee member demonstrates the characteristics which we consider a model of skill and method. The revolutionary group's organization of itself into a revolutionary committee means in principle its willingness to carry out the duties arising from its existence as a revolutionary group. The first of these duties is the organization of the popular masses into secret people's conferences.

The revolutionary committee organizes the masses surrounding it into a secret people's conference. This conference may begin with one individual, but it grows steadily to contain all the popular masses in its environment at the earliest opportunity.

Another function of the revolutionary committee is to form additional revolutionary committees in other areas to fulfill the same role in the

organization of the masses, so that within a certain period, all or most of the people will become affiliated with the people's conferences and will be ready to exercise power by means of them--or actually, they will be ready to seize power through them by the appropriate means prior to exercising power.

The revolutionary committee in any given place begins by formulating a concept of this place from the standpoint of the importance and consciousness of the people and their willingness to bear their responsibility in seizing their right to power. Next it formulates a specific conception of the people's conference, whose establishment it insures by secretly calling on the masses to join it. The committee envisions the conference structurally in terms of its number of participants and the existence of its administrative secretariat. Thus, we find that no people are incorporated into the structure up until the hour it is conceived. The means which are employed are to attract the people into the structure individually and in groups from the outside environment. In this way, the new structure is filled with people and the old structure they occupied previously is emptied completely--or nearly so.

The revolutionary committees thus create holes in this structure through which people leak into a new and sound structure free from oppression and the principles of exploitation.

These holes are simply the methods of appeal and attraction which the revolutionary committee employs in order to bring consciousness to an advanced stage of action and to channel this consciousness toward the popular revolution in order to achieve the society of the *jamahiriyah*.

The individuals who formed the old structure are the very ones whom the revolutionary committees attract in order to form a new structure of life.

We can describe these channels of nourishment opened in the body of society as roots which draw in the necessary nutrients for plants in the growth stage from a suitable environment.

The methods of appeal in the revolutionary committees are like tiny capillaries whose function is to enable the popular conferences to grow and continue to survive until they reach maturity with the seizure of the power, wealth and weapons by the masses.

How Do the Masses Seize Power?

I touched on this matter earlier during our discussion of the function of the revolutionary committees and the question of the revolution and violence. However, what I am trying to explain here is the purely practical side of this complex process, which begins with an ideological change and matures with a complete and radical transformation of the elements of life in human society.

The conditions for the seizure of power by the masses can be summarized as follows:

1. The formation of people's conferences in which the masses organize themselves and which they prepare as an instrument of government to take the place of all the traditional instruments of government.
2. The fall of the traditional machinery of government through its elimination or destruction.

These are the two necessary conditions for the seizure of power by the masses. Unless they are met, this will not be attainable under any circumstances. For this reason, it is understood that the people's conferences are to carry out the destruction and elimination of the traditional government and establish the rule of the masses in the people's conferences in its place.

This is the fact on the basis of which the revolutionary committees call the people to the people's conferences. It is on this basis, as well, that the revolutionary committees mobilize the revolutionary committees to enable them to carry out this function in the best manner.

Many of the popular uprisings which have occurred in many different parts of the world would have succeeded if they had been led by people's conferences. In Egypt, for example, the popular masses revolted, rejected obedience and recognition of the official authorities as illegitimate, and poured forth toward the capital and the major cities from everywhere. But then the dictatorial government was able to smash these masses, wound them and drive them back into their holes like rats, as if nothing had happened. But if this has been done a different way, with well-defined and radical tactics, the people's conferences would have come into the open and proclaimed the overthrow of the dictatorial government. Each people's conference would have been responsible for its geographical area and would have defended it and eliminated the power of the dictatorial government within it. In this way, the organization of the [word illegible] masses takes place, and they are incited to carry out the same task throughout the region. They easily gain control over the country without encountering any [word illegible] actions from the dictatorial authorities. They finally tighten their grip on these illegal powers, which are left without any presence except in the capital, which is itself [in rebellion?]. The government is then eliminated in the capital by an advance from the outside and by internal disruption. But this is done without abandoning the basic principles followed by all the people's conferences which march on the capital from the different areas.

This is the method of popular revolution, and it is a method which cannot be resisted for several reasons:

1. It makes the masses organized and gives them definite goals which are unyielding and cannot be haggled over under any circumstances.

2. It permits the dissolution of the power of the dictatorial government without allowing it to settle the matter anywhere at a time when it needs to concentrate its power. This also affords time for the conferences to make themselves public and organize themselves thoroughly--even in the capital--so that the people's blow against the dictatorial regime will be fatal and decisive.

3. There is no chance for the struggle of the masses to be coopted, led astray or outsmarted. It is the masses which carry out the revolution directly, lead it in the field and know where to stop it.

4. The fact that the people carry out the revolution and organize themselves thoroughly in the popular committees attracts the forces which the dictatorial government is able to exploit into the ranks of the people, because these forces are from the people and because those carrying out the revolution have a direct relationship with these forces and have the power to influence them. This puts the dictatorial regime at a loss and denies it the prerogative of using these forces, which it considers a club that is always at the ready. Thus, it is not able to prolong its time in power.

5. By organizing themselves in the people's conferences, the popular masses will be an instrument of government which will not permit the chaos and social and political breakdown that usually accompany revolutions and acts of violence and destruction. In fact, acts of economic or social sabotage may not occur at all, because the masses will find themselves in control of their land, owning the spots where they plant their feet. The reactionary government, on the other hand, will find that it has no power and does not possess anything which merits destruction. Thus, the traditional regime will fall naturally without any complications in the areas of security or order.

After this, the masses will have only to establish the general conferences in which the leaders of the people's conferences, the people's committees, the trade unions, the leagues and the federations will come together to put the people's decisions into final form and establish the system of people's government forever, thus achieving their final victory.

8591

CSO: 4802

VIOLATION OF HARATINE'S CIVIL RIGHTS ALLEGED

Paris LE MONDE in French 7-8 Sep 80 p 4

[Text] Some Haratine having been arrested recently in Mauritania (LE MONDE, 4 April), a reader, Mrs Claude Genison, writes to us to clarify the living conditions of this social category.

Any man in the servile category in a Moorish milieu is called Hartani (pl.: Haratine). The distinction between the slaves and the emancipated is very difficult to make, most of those called "emancipated" being so "de facto" (escape, independent activity) but not "de jure" (legal act). Of the black race, descendants of the prisoners taken during the rezzous carried out in black territory, they have lived for several generations in the Moorish milieu, that is, nomadic and desert-dwelling. They have adopted certain of its practices, language and clothing among others.

The linguistic question takes on a special importance insofar as it has constituted and continues to constitute an essential claim of the Negro-African populations. Hassanophones like the Moors, the Haratine are often assimilated with the Arabo-Berber population whose life and culture they have shared for years.

But can one speak of an identical culture for all that? Can one compare the "master" who, in the tent, ceremonially serves the traditional mint tea, and the "captive" who hauled the water and wood necessary for its preparation? If the abductions appear to have ceased since the country's independence (1960), it seems that some selling of slaves has still taken place since that date.

At present the Haratine make up the majority of the unskilled laborers and the unemployed who have flocked to the cities after the drought of the seventies. As tent slaves, they attend to domestic duties; as bush slaves, they watch the master's flocks or insure the grain supply of the encampments during the winter. The conflicts which take place regularly in the country's interior seem to show, despite a poor circulation of information, that certain Haratine want to put an end to their status, which does not violate

the most elementary human rights any less because it is traditional... Demonstrating recently at Nouakchott, some Haratine demanded improvement of their condition and distributed tracts to sensitize national public opinion.

It seems that these latter events were the determining factor in the Mauritanian authorities' decision to proceed, at the beginning of March, with arrests among those Haratine who, thanks to unusual educational opportunities, have been able to rise to positions of responsibility. We should be alarmed by the repression which is being launched against these men who are only asking for a little dignity and their place at the heart of Mauritanian society.

9/08

0501 4400

THREAT TO USFP SEEN AS EXEMPLIFYING OFFICIAL ATTITUDE

Casablanca LIBERATION in French 4 Jul 80 p 16

[Editorial: "How Far Will Exclusion Extend?"]

[Text] During the last parliamentary session of the year, the minister of the interior threatened the USFP point-blank with reprisals if it did not keep quiet. It might be thought that such an attitude is part of the administration's daily routine, and that after all there is nothing particularly scandalous about it. It is a fact that, Morocco being what it is, one can see no reason why the USFP would be excluded from the general coercive measures suffered daily by every citizen. Especially since there exist, between the USFP and the overwhelming majority of the Moroccan population, over and above mere affinity, a shared situation and a shared destiny. This explanation will do for understanding the event that has scandalized the whole of Morocco. Have we not seen the dignity of a whole nation derided by having its will set at naught through ballot-box manipulation? Have we not heard officials asserting that there is no economic crisis in Morocco, while the people are martyred more every day? Have we not seen disgraceful school and university results wrecking the hopes of thousands of families, while officials hold forth about the generalization of education? So it is one system that prevails, one practice. Cynicism is pressed to the extreme. So it is not a matter of concern if the accused changes into the prosecutor.

The administrative machinery that gave free rein to its excesses at the time of the May election, that falsified the returns and tailored them to its own needs no longer bothers about any moral considerations. It is in the heart of an institution intended to embody the end of the era of exceptions that the minister of the interior expresses his animosity toward the USFP. That is the height of scorn for democracy. And that is how they expect to convince us of the credibility of the present assembly.

Threats are used to explain that the elections were free and have always been free. Pressure is expected to create consensus around an experience distorted and caricatured on 30 May 1980. It might be said that a new Morocco has been born. It is the Morocco of the consecration of high-handedness. For it is with the blessing of the "majority" that the new face of

Morocco is discovered day by day: one of exaction, impoverishment, and obscurantism. All that was missing from "democracy" Moroccan-style was direct threat, as policy, from the government. We have gotten it! And we are proud of being its victims, because it proves once again our good faith and the bad faith of those who contradict us. It adds a new item to the heavy file on the lack of any political will among officials to get Morocco on the road to democracy and respect for human rights.

But let the minister of the interior be assured that his threat will merely give the USFP greater strength for fighting the choices and methods of government that have no consideration for the Moroccan. The USFP has its compass. Its faith in and dedication to the ideal of democracy have been strengthened by precisely what it has endured for over 20 years. You are not dealing with an inexperienced political organization. It is a political organization rooted in the historical traditions of struggle and hope that you, and that others, have just threatened with reprisals. The history of this organization is the story of the struggle for democracy in our country. It is a story punctuated by sacrifices, which, contrary to the hopes of our oppressors, have only rooted the USFP more deeply in the daily life and consciousness of the masses. The USFP has accumulated capital in militants over 21 years, counted in terms of death sentences and hundreds of years of imprisonment in secret places, and thousands of acts of physical cruelty, countless measures of extortion and pressure. So this threat is not one that will stop us in our struggle for a political system in which, among other things, all governmental or administrative authority would have limits to its power. Limits set first and foremost by respect for the will of the people.

"Troublemakers, you will be punished," they hurl at us. But then, you are likely to take a whole people for disruptive elements! A worker on strike is an agitator, a peasant protesting the devastation of his land is attacking the security of the state, a student who disagrees is a dangerous element, a protesting shopkeeper is dabbling in politics (and so is liable to sanctions)...how far will exclusion go? Do you want the new Morocco to be only for the boss who fires workers, the feudal lord who steals land, the speculators who harry little middlemen, for an arbitrary policy?

There is every reason to believe that the minister of the interior was not particularly taking aim at the USFP. This threat is one intended for any protest movement, whether it is political, social, or cultural. It is proof that the policy followed recently has been carefully thought out. Arbitrary measures and falsification of votes are not in fact mere over-zealousness. Because the administrative system has been adopted, in the name of the government, and its arbitrariness has even had repercussions within the assembly. The few impressions of democracy are thus purely and simply wiped out.

But let those pressing for a return to the era of exceptions be reassured. Times have changed. They have brought greater strength to our combativity.

and armed the masses better against coercion. Democracy is no longer just a claim. It is a necessity now. Tomorrow it will be an imperative. The people around us have realized that. Democracy is spreading on an international scale. Morocco will never be able to backtrack again. It could not possibly live in isolation. Even if it wanted to, it could not do it. No black spots are wanted in international society any more. So, really, minister of the interior, you seem very behind the times.

12,149

CSO: 4400

AUTO, NAVAL SHIPYARD STRIKES CONTINUE

Auto Workers

Casablanca AL-BAYANE in French 9 Jul 80 pp 1, 3

[Text] One thousand workers are continuing the strike movement they started on 2 June 1980. We remind readers that metal workers in Casablanca held a sympathy strike on behalf of their SOMACA [Moroccan Automobile Construction Company] brothers on 18 June.

The present movement was started, as is common knowledge, in support of the claims presented to management by the workers. Management rejected all the claims wholesale, and chose to have recourse to unspeakable behavior to break the strike, sow discord among the workers, and in the end make no concessions at all. Even elementary rights. Management obstinacy is more or less implicitly encouraged by the indifference of local authorities to the paralyzing of so important a sector as that of SOMACA automobiles.

We recall that the causes of the worsening situation of SOMACA workers are of long standing. So the present strike is the second of its kind during 1980. Last 6 May, management provoked workers' displeasure by firing some of their number. Hence a strike, which led to negotiations. Last year, too, workers held a general strike that lasted a month (21 February to 22 March 1979).

The strike is continuing at present despite all management's reprehensible maneuvers.

Management sent workers notices that they had abandoned their work stations and that punitive action would be taken against them. It decided to fire the nine trades union bureau members. It withheld May wages even though the workers were not on strike then.

Some "strikers" were arrested, then released. After undergoing interrogations, and establishing that there was nothing in their records, of course. They were innocent, as were in fact all their comrades, who were only claiming elementary rights, flouted by a very harsh administration. In fact,

the ineptitude and ill-will of the SOMACA administration are not just an example of poor management in an establishment of industrial and commercial nature, but also, and especially, an illustration of employer arrogance and its anti-worker choices.

In the face of this revival of employer "strike-breaking" policy, the SOMACA workers have at their disposal one big trump for taking possession of their rights: namely, unity in their ranks.

For our part, we unconditionally support their legitimate struggle until their definitive victory.

Naval Shipyard Workers

Casablanca L'AVANT-GARDE in French 5 Jul 80 p 6

[Excerpt] From the Moroccan Naval Shipyards: strike since 6 June 1980. The workers of the New Moroccan Naval Shipyards are still determined to continue the strike.

The arguments put forward by the employer, and fully agreed with by the authorities, are far from convincing enough to repress the wage-earning workforce.

The latter again denounces the prefecture's taking sides with the employer. If the employer alleges "economic reasons" for proceeding with the firing of the 59 workers, the same reasons must be used by the authorities to prevent this arbitrary act. And with good reason! In an almost new branch of economic activity in which a lot of effort needs to be made, management prefers to turn to an easy solution, namely, dismissals and keeping administration static.

These very economic reasons explain employee motives for continuing the strike until all their dismissed comrades are rehired.

12,149
CS0: 4400

FUEL PRICE INCREASES CONDEMNED BY UMT

Casablanca L'AVANT-GARDE in French 5 Jul 80 pp 1, 3

[Statement by UMT National Secretariat]

[Text] The measures the government has just taken concerning the increase in fuel prices are another blow to working class purchasing power.

This increase, which will inevitably have major repercussions on all staple products, is sure, coming just before Ramadan, to encourage speculators, lead to price flare-ups, and adversely affect the already shaky living conditions of the masses.

The measures demonstrate once again that the policy in force, trapped in its own unpopular initial choices and in its day to day inconsistencies, cannot help but force the poor to pay more.

They are occurring at a time when the inclination for a campaign against fiscal fraud has been forgotten. They prove that except for sedatives, expedients, and soothing speeches, no consistent social policy is to be expected within the current framework of choices.

Deep legitimate social discontentment is constantly increasing, totally at odds with the ostentatious agitation of the protagonists of democracy of pure form.

The discontentment reaches beyond workers and the underprivileged to affect broad strata of society.

In parallel with the discontentment we are witnessing a systematic offensive by the employer class against worker achievements, trades union rights and freedoms, in total violation of the laws.

Employer arbitrariness is exercised with complete impunity, having the advantage of the cooperation or abdication of the officials.

In the face of this situation, the National Secretariat of the UMT
[Moroccan Labor Federation]:

Protests against renewed escalation of the policy of impoverishment of the
working classes;

Energetically denounces the actions of the employer class which is trying
to take advantage of the situation to strike at the achievements and
rights of workers;

Declares infamous employer provocation, the more or less generalized rule of
refusal to accede to workers' requests, and quibbling by officials and
their refusal to honor their commitments toward workers in several sectors;

Denounces the policy of domestication and division using the vilest means
to damage the trades union unity of workers;

Condemns violations of trades union freedoms, unfair dismissals and perse-
cution of union officials;

Salutes struggling workers and the daily sacrifices they accept for the de-
fense of their rights and achievement of their goals;

Calls upon all militants and workers as a whole to strengthen their unity,
redouble their vigilance, and check any attempts to subjugate workers or
make use of them to achieve dishonorable aims.

The UMT national secretariat reaffirms the deep conviction of workers that
there is no solution except through radical change, which implies abandon-
ing the unpopular choices now in force and the adoption of an orientation
guided by well-defined, consistent, liberating choices.

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EXPORT FIGURES SHOW SATISFYING INCREASE

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 4 Jul 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] It is with obvious satisfaction that the minister of commerce has just announced the initial figures reported by the foreign trade of Morocco this year.

Statistics established last 30 April show that very substantial progress in exports was reported, on the order of 52 percent over the figures reached in 1979. This is a really exceptional rate of progress that had not been seen since 1974-1975.

The increase is essentially due to exportation of phosphates of which we recently pointed out the development in terms of quantity as well as price. If lead export development is included, ore exports in the first 4 months are up by 63 percent over the results achieved during the same period in 1979.

Phosphoric acid exports continue to increase at a lively pace; they have more than doubled since last year (+ 135 percent).

These are some of the principal results achieved:

1. Agricultural products: citrus fruits: up 26 percent in value; young vegetables: up 58 percent in value; olive oil: vigorous resumption of exports, of which there were none in 1979; paper pulp: sales development is continuing at a spectacular rate.
2. Mining products: Overall increase of 63 percent.
3. Partly processed products: fertilizers: + 89 percent; phosphoric acid: + 135 percent.
4. Finished products: overall increase of 37 percent: ready-to-wear clothing: increase of 69 percent; footwear: + 144 percent.

Imports also showed an increase, but not so broad in scope: the rise is only 32 percent. Consequently the balance of trade deficit is declining and the import-export covering rate which was only 49.8 percent in April 1979 has increased this year to 57.3 percent.

KING VISITS SAFI PHOSPHATES, URANIUM EXTRACTION PLANTS

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 1 Jul 80 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Safi, 1 July (MAP)--Beginning his official visit to the Safi provinces, Essaouira and el-Jadida, his majesty King Hassan II arrived in Safi at 1350 hours from Marrakesh via Tleta Bouguedra.

Tens of thousands of citizens received his majesty the king and his highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed who accompanied him with a welcome indicative of the bonds of affection linking the people to the unifier of the kingdom.

During the afternoon, his majesty the king visited the chemical complex of "Morocco Phosphate 2." This complex, built to put the Benguerir phosphate into production, was inaugurated by his majesty the king on 15 November 1975.

The phosphate is processed then converted into phosphoric acid from which sulphuric acid is then extracted by combustion of the sulphur, thus producing SO₂ gas and finally SO₃.

Sulphuric acid then gives off heat, which is converted into electrical energy in quantities sufficient for the running of the complex. The surplus energy is intended for the National Electricity Office (ONE). Mixing sulphuric acid with phosphate produces phosphoric acid in a 54 percent concentration from which P 205 (phosphoric oxide) is extracted.

The P 205 is intended for export. The capacity of each of the three units at "Morocco Phosphates 2" is 1,750 tons of sulphuric acid a day. They also produce a total of 1,500 tons of phosphoric acid a day. The complex thus consumes 5,500 tons of phosphate a day.

His majesty the king was then to proceed to the laying of the foundation stone of the uranium extraction unit. The sovereign was first given an explanation of this unit by the director of chemical industries, Mr M'hamdi. [No further details given]

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GOVERNMENT WELCOMES ALMOST HALF MILLION REFUGEES

Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Jul 80 p 4

[Article by special correspondent Jean-Pierre Langellier]

[Text] Towawa--"The idea of going home never leaves us. But when? We fled Ethiopia because we were being oppressed. We shall not go back again until the regime in office has been overturned. Meanwhile, we lead a passive existence, uprooted." Johannes Desta does not conceal the unhappiness of his existence, like the majority of the 500 occupants of the Towawa camp. He is from the Tigre Province in the north of Ethiopia. He was a primary school teacher until the military in power threw him into prison. Relatively privileged, he was there only 2 months. Afterwards he took the long road into exile. He is barely 25 years old, and frankly admits that he belongs to the Tigre Liberation Front, an armed combat movement against the "military dictatorship."

The "semi-urban community" of Towawa came into existence only a month ago. An hour's drive by Land Rover from Khartoum, and 2 hours from Kassala--on the Ethiopian border--it shelters "old refugees" settled until recently in the nearby town of Gedaref. Rising abruptly out of the bush, Towawa came into existence through one of the refugee resettlement pilot projects implemented by the Sudanese government with the support of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Each of the 1,300 families in Towawa has received the materials necessary for building its own "oukal," the traditional round thatch-roofed hut.

For 6 months, the world food program will supply the occupants of Towawa, free of charge, with the powdered milk and sorghum with which the women will make "doura," a cooked flat cake which is the basic food of northern Ethiopians. After that, they will have to be self-sufficient. A primary school and a little clinic will open soon.

Among the host countries harboring the 5 million African refugees--one out of every two in the world--the Sudan is somewhat of a model. Having faced the drama of exile itself in the past--half a million of its nationals having found asylum until 1972 in neighboring countries, as a result of the

civil war--the Sudan has managed to pursue a generous policy in the matter. For the past 15 years waves of refugees have continuously flooded across its borders: Zairians in 1965 and 1968, Ethiopians from Eritrea and elsewhere in 1967, 1974, and since 1979, Chadians from 1970 to 1974 and in 1979, Ugandans in 1972 and 1979. Not one of the refugees has ever been turned away. On 1 January 1980--the latest known statistic--there was 441,000 of them, made up of the following groups: 390,000 Ethiopians (including 360,000 Eritreans), 39,000 Ugandans, 7,000 Chadians, and 5,000 Zairians.

Here refugees have been considered second class people to a lesser extent than elsewhere. A government department was set up to take care of them. From 1967 to 1979, the UNHCR devoted \$17 million to refugees in the Sudan. However, for this country which is one of the poorest in the world, the refugee burden has become intolerable with the passing of years. A partisan of voluntary repatriation of exiles, the Sudan has continued to be a reception country in accordance with humanitarian conventions. But it has decided to make the public aware of its efforts and to start a fundraising campaign on behalf of the exiles who have wound up on its soil.

The Sudanese Government has set itself the task of putting an end to the spontaneous settling of refugees by grouping them in permanent resettlement areas equipped with infrastructures enabling them to become self-supporting quickly. The UNHCR, which considers the Sudanese policy realistic and courageous, increased its financial contribution to this project sixfold in 1980. Several European and Scandinavian countries, the EEC itself, United Nations agencies and the Islamic Development Bank have announced or given hopes of aid programs. But it is far less than is needed. "There is a limit to what our government can manage," we were told by Sayed Abel Alier, vice president of the Sudanese Republic, "We do not want to find ourselves in the same situation as some south east Asian countries.

Avoiding Friction

To prevent the development of ghettos, the Sudanese Government is planning to integrate refugee communities into the development programs of neighboring districts. The emergence of areas of friction between refugees and the local population must be avoided, thus the inhabitants of Towawa were still living in an area of Gedaref a short time ago [as published]. It was partly burned down last October after a quarrel broke out between Ethiopians and Sudanese. So the authorities decided to move the refugees out of the town. Whether in connection with job-hunting, admission to hospital, or admission to education, refugees are perceived as intruders, usurpers even, and sometimes privileged as well when they receive free food for several months. At Gedaref, Port-Sudan, or Khartoum, the influx of refugees has caused an increase in rents and made the shortage of transportation worse.

Most of the refugees were peasants in their native countries. Many hope to return to agriculture. As a result of international aid, the government has provided for allocation of land to them. Ten kilometers outside Gedaref,

the village of Um Gargur shelters 6,000 refugees. This year each family will receive one hectare, and a second one in 1981. These lands were bought from neighboring farmers. The HCR hopes that the refugees will soon become self-supporting as far as food is concerned. In the meantime, the adults are to a large extent inactive. According to a survey, admittedly conducted in the off-season, over 6 out of 10 were unemployed. The others work an average of 7 months a year. Only a real program of rural development will enable the refugees to restore the economic and social balance of the village community that they lost when they set out on the road to exile.

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PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY GIVES DINNER IN HONOR OF SIMONE VEIL

Remarks by Mokaddem

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 7 Sep 80 p 4

[Article: "The President of the National Assembly Gives a Dinner in Honor of Mme Simone Veil"]

[Text] Dr Mokaddem: We attach great importance to the implementation of the cooperation agreement with EEC.

Dr Sadok Mokaddem, president of the National Assembly, gave a dinner on Friday night, at the "Baie des Singes" hotel in Gammarth, in honor of Madame Simone Veil, president of the European Parliament and of the members of the delegation who accompanied her in her official visit in Tunisia.

Among the persons of distinction invited to this dinner, the presence of the following was noted: Mme Fethia Mzali, member of the Political Bureau, and president of UNFT [National Union of Tunisian Women], Larbi Abderrazak, member of the Political Bureau, Abdelmajid Karoui, director of protocol, Taleb Sahbani, secretary general, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Ben Arta, ambassador director general of international cooperation, Nouredine Mejdoub, chief of the European division of the same ministry, Abdelaziz Hamzaoui, tunisian ambassador to the EEC, and Pierre Hunt, French ambassador in Tunis, as well as some members of the National Assembly.

First to speak during the exchange of toasts, Dr Sadok Mokaddem welcomed Simone Veil, whose visit in Tunisia, he underlined, constitutes the development of the cooperative relations between the institutions of the European Economic Community and the Tunisian Republic.

"Your auspicious visit, he added, addressing the president of the European Parliament will serve to implement the provisions of Article 47 of the FTI

Director-General of Agriculture, dated 17 April 1976. These provisions concern the establishment of a joint parliament and committee, a European Parliamentary Assembly, including representatives, to discuss and coordinate the socio-economic development of the agricultural of the TUNISIAN Government of Tunisia.

According to the Director-General of Agriculture, "in order to be official and the work program which was given in the office of the Secretary General, around the working of their positions, we can see that there were useful and constructive. I do not feel that it is necessary to be changing the participants of our exchange of experience."

I would like to stress again the need for interest during the next 10 years, the implementation of the provisions of the cooperation agreement and to state again the hope that the deepening and strengthening of the scope of the implementation of this agreement can become a reality.

We would like to see that the differences which are in conflict with this program should be solved by a series of collaboration and understanding in the past of all the parties concerned.

The President of the National Assembly then recalled that Tunisia was one of the civil Mediterranean countries to provide officials and scientists, through the voice of its previously Public Assembly, its wish to join and cooperate with the European Economic Community as much as the first agents of its Community were established during the fifteen. This political decision, confirmed by the most authoritative voice in the country must be taken into consideration during discussions, exchange of viewpoints of negotiations between the Community and Tunisia.

I say, and I wish, he said, to see our closest colleagues in the European Parliamentary Assembly, share our mission and preoccupations, and combine their efforts with ours with the view to fully insure cooperation between the Community and Tunisia.

"In this uncertain and unstable world in which we live, real cooperation between the European Community and Tunisia can create a zone of stability and safety and contribute to the cooperation, understanding and the reinforcement of peace in our region", concluded the President of the National Assembly.

Remarks by (21)

Topic: LA ORDRE DE TUNISIE in French / Sep 80 p 4

[Article: "Madame Simone Veil: We are paying careful attention to the questions which are the focal point of your preoccupations—European Parliament recently desires of establishing without delay a permanent official dialogue with the National Assembly"]

[illegible]

under which the provisions of the agreement, are strictly and absolutely binding on appeal, the law implemented by the competent authorities agreed that in principle, after the following year the model law will be redrafted into legislation and two draft bills have been submitted by common accord and approved by the Senate, Parliament and the Supreme Parliament, but unfortunately a Government

Impossible to take appropriate time to take effect before the installation. It is the first experience that I have of the different concepts and the way they are being produced in the different countries. I am not sure if this is the first time. My whole life has been in the same way and the same way in the same way. The second part of the installation, the first part, is the same as the first part, all the time and the same way in the same way.

will understand that the European Parliament has agreed with satisfaction the signing of the cooperation agreement between the Tunisian Republic and the European Community, confirming the importance of a liberal and economic

valued, some said, as it is underlined in the first article of the agreement which assigns to itself as an objective "to promote *stable* relations between the contracting parties with the aim to contribute to the economic and social development of Tunisia and to assist in the strengthening of their relations." Exemplary, because as is indicated in the preamble of the agreement, it is proclaimed as a "model for relations between developed and developing states, compatible with the provisions of the Inter-national community for a fairer and better balanced economic order."

Partida's Adherence To the Policy Under All the Circumstances Having Been Studied

The president of the European Parliament, JOHANNES KOENIG, addressed the members of the European Parliament, some 400 days after their incorporation agreement, and not simply of those nations involved in the European Community in certain directions and policies while they were still in the process. Mediterranean policy is a strategy spending policy in the direction of the Arab world, global policy of aid to development, but also of a new worldwide economic order, characterized by new relations between developed countries and countries under development, between producers of raw materials and industrial nations, between exporters and importers — among

Since these extensive changes initiated have found fruitful results in a period of 20 years, at the 50th anniversary of the 1917 Revolution for achievements, under the outstanding guidance of the victorious rule of the Turkish Republic, President Mustafa Kemal, whose characteristics of art and revolutionism had made it possible the transformation to become, in a few or at a century, a strong country respected by all.

representative of Tunisian life, and the fact that the dialogue between the Tunisian Government and the European Community has been marked by a constant and open verification of the 1975 decision by both sides always conducted in a spirit of understanding and tolerance, and the second meeting, which will be the application of the agreement, will be the principle of being satisfied.

As for the Committee's work in regard to the future expansion of the European Community, she added, they are being studied effectively by the authorities in Brussels and the governments of the member states. The members of the Committee and the representatives of the governments of the nine who have succeeded one another in Tunis since the launching of this year have played a role. The initiatives were not really easy to define but it is of fundamental importance for the balance of the Mediterranean area and the peace of the Mediterranean. In all the positions in the debate, that the dialogue between them should be fruitful.

Your country has pursued this dialogue very closely for many years with the Committee of the Community and the governments of the member states."

Moreover, will emphasize the work of the European Parliament to come into contact with the representatives of the Tunisian people in order to have a better understanding of the problems and to help in their solution. He stressed, among others, the study of the problems of the first meeting with the delegation of our two assemblies."

The president of the European Parliament continued in this connection:

"The subjects which are likely to be raised in the agenda of this meeting and of those which will follow, are not lacking. As, beyond the contents of the agreement which binds your country with the European Economic Community, and the present and future problems which its application engenders, the European Parliament is paying careful attention to the questions which we know are also the focal point of the Tunisian Republic's preoccupations.

In addition, will make it clear that the European Parliament is following attentively the evolution of the Euro-Arab dialogue, of which Tunisia, she underlines, is not out to be one of its most ardent defenders and which the member states of the Community who had formulated its pattern in Venice last year, particularly wish to develop in its political dimension.

After recalling that in its October session the European assembly still plans to debate the problems of the impending conference on security and cooperation in Europe, which Tunisia is following closely in its Mediterranean viewpoint, Simone Veil stressed the strong desire of the European Parliament to establish a permanent dialog structure with the National Assembly as soon as possible.

Moreover, she added, it seems to be essential that in the uncertain and difficult times in which we are living, where the peace of the world finds itself every day at the mercy of a brutal aggravation of the tensions which affect too many areas of the globe, and, alas, which do not spare the periphery of the Mediterranean, and our solidarities assert themselves much more than our differences, far be it from me to invoke the ascending puff of order to brush aside the necessary and frank explanations called for by the difficulties encountered in establishing our cooperation."

The community, she declared in concluding, has not evaded and will not evade this debate, and the Parliament plans to take part in it. But, at the same time, it wishes that a dialog be established which would emphasize the unity of our views on the problems whose solution conditions our survival and our common future."

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COMMITTEES MEET TO FORMULATE SIXTH PLAN

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 18 Sep 80 p 4

[Report of the meeting of the planning committee: "Sixth Plan Preparation Meeting of Committees for Small and Heavy Industry and for National Education"]

[Text] The national committee for the small and heavy industry sector held its first plenary session, as part of the Sixth Plan preparation activities, at the National Economy Ministry, under the chairmanship of Mr Abdelaziz Laarou, minister for national economy.

Industrialists and representatives of various ministries, from industrial enterprises and national organizations participated.

The minister indicated that in order to maximally increase employment, to promote export, to improve industrial integration and to satisfy consumers needs, industry will be a priority in the next plan.

Accordingly, the committee must seek fast and concrete solutions which will eliminate any bottleneck which may develop; it must particularly resolve the structural problems (tax and banking systems, administrative requirements, price fixing mechanisms, state support). This will make it possible to back-up industrialists, to promote their responsibilities and to motivate them, as they are the backbone of the country economic development.

In addition, careful consideration is warranted by the following areas:

- a) Promotion of industrial cooperation between Tunisia and Arab world
- b) Improvement of working conditions and workers' training to match job requirements
- c) Identification of projects which could be carried out during the Sixth Plan.

The minister reminded the committee that the government has decided the creation of three new banks to finance large projects.

- d) Maximum utilization of production capacity
- e) Technology and engineering

To achieve these objectives, eleven subcommittees have been created, divided into task forces. It should be noted that the minister has made sure that each subcommittee does represent a specific industrial sector:

- 1) metallurgy, mechanical and electrical industries
- 2) heavy chemical industry
- 3) chemical specialties industry
- 4) building materials
- 5) agriculture and food industries
- 6) textiles
- 7) miscellaneous industries
- 8) small enterprises
- 9) leather
- 10) general problems (industrial environment)
- 11) industrial cooperation.

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REMARKS BY MOKADDEM IN EAST BERLIN

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 18 Sep 80 p 4

[Report on speech by Dr Sadok Mokaddem: "Dr Mokkadem at the 67th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly: "Let Us Combine Our Energies To Save Humanity From Disaster"]

[Text] In an address, given yesterday in East Berlin, Dr Sadok Mokaddem, president of the Tunisian National Assembly, heading a delegation of deputies representing Tunisia at the 67th Inter-Parliamentary Union assembly, evoked the major problems of our time and gave a broad picture of situation currently existing in certain world regions.

In opening his statement, Dr Mokkadem reviewed the major questions which are on everyone's mind and which, by their intensity, do endanger the international peace and security. They consist notably of the progressive deterioration of international situation, of the accelerating course toward armaments, of the reactivated tension focal points in various parts of the world, of subversive activities, of destabilization efforts and international terrorism, and of the increase in the disparity, the socioeconomic distortions, between North and South.

Speaking of the situation in Africa, first Dr Mokaddem expressed his satisfaction at Zimbabwe accession to full sovereignty, before stigmatizing the "shameful" and degrading practices of apartheid and racial discrimination toward native populations in South Africa. On this point, he called upon the international community to take energetic measures and "if need be, effective sanctions" with the objective of bringing this country to its senses, as its current behavior "constitute an unacceptable insult to the whole of mankind."

In the same order of ideas, the president of the National Assembly noted that only Israel continues to maintain close relations and an intense cooperation with South Africa.

Again in connection with Africa, Dr Mokaddem has evoked the drama which is engulfing the Eritrean people, victim of a "veritable genocide."

As far as the Western Sahara conflict is concerned, "which constitutes a major obstacle to cooperation between countries of the Magarab region," the speaker did express a wish that OAU "could find a pacific and permanent solution for this painful affair."

Dr Mokaddem was lead to speak of Middle East situation where the Palestinian problem has reached "a paroxysm of tension, as a result of systematic expansionism by Israel, in the West Bank, in the holy city of El Qods, and in South Lebanon and Golan Heights."

In this context, he recalled President Bourguiba's position "who has never ceased for the last 10 years to proclaim that the solution of the Middle East conflict resides in the application of international legality, as spelled out in the successive relevant resolutions passed in the United Nations."

"Again in the Middle East, added Dr Mokaddem, Afghanistan is still under the yoke of Soviet army occupation.

The Afghan people are putting up an heroic resistance to this occupation and proclaims, arms in hand, its will to conduct its own affairs without any outside intervention. Pressing appeals from the international community, directed to the Soviet Union, have remained without effect."

"True, he added, any settlement of these conflicts would reduce international tensions and they would strengthen international peace and security; but there will be real protection for peace only when more justice, and fair and effective solidarity is introduced in economic relations between peoples. This underlines the vital importance of elaborating a radically and deeply reorganized economic order. It is our duty, as partners, to combine our energies and to bring out our influence on our governments to save mankind from this menacing disaster" said Dr Mokaddem in his conclusion.

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CSO: 4400

BOURGUIBA'S SERVICE TO ISLAM PRAISED

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 5 Aug 80 p 5

[Article: "Closing of the Seminar on Bourguibian Conceptions; Kooli: No Regime Has Served Islam As Well As the Bourguibian Regime"]

[Text] Mongi Kooli, delegate minister to the office of the prime minister, and director of the party, presided on Saturday, at the closing of the seminar on Bourguibian conceptions which had been meeting since 27 July at Dar Ayad in Ksar Hellal.

In the first place, in his address, the director of the party affirmed that "sincerely and without chauvinism the only person of mark and the only leader who has rendered such service to this country, is Bourguiba. Without his willpower, sincerity, patience and resistance, none of the concrete results which at the present time have been so advantageous to the Tunisian people, would have been realized."

In this context Mongi Kooli recalled the conditions under which President Bourguiba had been excluded from the old-Destour, underlining in this connection young Bourguiba's determination in having all the people participate in the battle for liberation, contrary to what the Archeans thought.

Basing himself on this principle, Bourguiba engaged in a sincere and loyal dialog and a direct contact policy with the people, said Kooli. After recalling the various episodes in the national struggle and the feats accomplished by Bourguiba, even when he was in exile, Mongi Kooli analyzed the qualities a Destourian militant must exhibit. He should arm himself, as Bourguiba did, with a will of iron which engenders the faith from which confidence in himself is born. The militant must give an example of honesty, competence and dissemination.

Doubly so, he said, since responsibility also implies enthusiasm, and the spirit of sacrifice in the service of the best interest of the nation.

Kooli added: the true Destourian is the one who, through his adherence to the party, does not run after titles and positions, and underlined that the PSD [Destourian Socialist Party] is not founded on the criterion of quantity.

On the contrary it values the quality of its adherents as it considers that good quality would create the necessary quantity.

He continued that the party did not accede to power because of a parliamentary majority, a military coup d'etat, or through heredity, but rather through a legitimacy born from the long struggle conducted for the progress of the citizen after having achieved the independence of the country.

Speaking of the role of the party, Kooli said that the PSD is racing against time in order to realize the objectives of the nation, to consolidate the structures of the state in order to facilitate the fulfillment of the work started, insure the training of the masses and realize their aspirations.

Alluding to the youth sector, Kooli remarked that it is necessary to be aware of the solicitude with which the Bourguibian regime supports youth. In fact, this regime considers man as most essential, especially young students.

The director of the party added: Assuming responsibilities represents a duty for the young which must be repaid vis-a-vis the country and the Supreme Combatant, whose 77th birthday is being celebrated today and for whom I pray God to grant him long life in order that he may carry out Tunisian's aspirations for progress."

Replying to a question relating to the conception of the party in connection with religion, Mongi Kooli recalled the fight led by Bourguiba against the naturalization campaign and his opposition to the Eucharistic Congress being held in Tunisia.

He added that there never was a regime which had served Islam as much as the Bourguibian regime which belongs to the true religion which is the Islam action, proposals and struggle.

The director of the party and the officials present then proceeded with the distribution of encouragement diplomas to the participants in the seminar.

A message of loyalty and best wishes was addressed to President Bourguiba on the occasion of his 77th birthday.

TUNISIAN YOUTH URGED TO ACQUIRE RESPONSIBILITIES

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 5 Aug 80 p 3

[Article: "Responsibilities Are Not Granted, But They Are Deserved"]

[Text] The elite of the final class representing the various governorates of the republic gathered in a frank and constructive debate on Friday night in Monastir with Mezri Chekir, directeur de cabinet in the office of the prime minister, in the presence of Abdessalem Dimassi, secretary general for youth organizations and Mohamed Ben Nasr, secretary general for the coordination committee.

Mezri Chekir immediately fell in the mood of his young audience who were particularly appreciative of the moderate and concise style of the lecturer, the clarity of his ideas, his constant reference to distinct examples and his willingness not to side-step any question and to reply frankly to all questioning.

Moreover the participants were anxious to warmly applaud the prime minister's closest collaborator and requested that he take a message of affection and support to President Bourguiba and Mohamed Mzali.

Opening the meeting with a brief preliminary expose, Mezri Chekir congratulated himself for the occasion offered to him to meet the young and to discuss the problems of the present with them.

"The Bourguibian regime," he said, "is counting on youth. The interest which we bear for the young is not all on the surface with 'demagogic' and propagandist ends in view. We have the firm intention to see to it that they will be fully associated in the political, social and economic life of the nation.

"We are firmly convinced that this objective implies that the young should be informed of the options in our policy and events in public life. In fact, the duty of guiding Tunisia's future destiny will be incumbent on the young. It is therefore evident that the more the young are informed of the ins and outs of the management of national affairs, the more they

will be able to bring by their enthusiasm, spontaneity and impetuous potentials, their invaluable contribution to the collective action for progress."

Then Mezri Chekir invited the participants to express their views and suggestions, and the directeur de cabinet in the office of the prime minister conducted the following dialog with the future students:

[Question] Mohamed Mzali, director of the "Al FIKR" publication published an editorial on the interference between education and development, how do you explain this interference?

[Answer] When we affirm that a Tunisian is the first priority in any development plan we think that by the same token helps to realize that development. Therefore, let us consider ourselves indispensable in guaranteeing a moral, intellectual and civic training to all citizens which could make them become productive, fully participating in the effort for development, that is to say the osmosis which must be achieved in the action for education on the one hand and the labor for development on the other.

To summarize let us say that development can only succeed on condition that it is based on citizens who are sound in mind and in body animated by a patriotic faith and imbued with a responsible behavior.

[Question] Don't you feel that changing the people in charge is a factor in administrative instability?

[Answer] Assigning responsibilities in Tunisia covers objective and serious criterions. The chief of state chooses the first responsible people who in turn appoint their collaborators to the national, regional and local level. It is logical and natural that in this framework the responsibilities and the responsible officials could be changed in the evolution of the conjuncture and the new data of national life. The conception that is made of the profile of the people in charge is dependent on the facts and the needs of the hour. The essential point is that the change of responsible officials should not entail in any manner a modification of development plans or call in again the question of options in the national effort for progress.

Furthermore, the exercise of the same responsibilities over a long period can affect rentability and it is always advantageous to bring in new blood capable of imprinting greater impulsion and dynamism.

[Question] Don't you think that the young should be more involved in the exercise of responsibilities?

[Answer] I want to answer you in one sentence. Responsibilities are not granted, they are deserved and conquered. The young must not wait for someone to come knocking at the door. They must be able to prove their maturity and competence, and through this proof they can accede through the big door to responsibilities, however important they might be.

I would like to recall to the young, in this connection, to ponder over Mohamed Mzali's example. I remember when we were children in Monastir, the young pupil, Mzali, distinguished himself by his vitality and his faith which stimulated from the very first our enthusiasm and our adherence. He never ceased originating cultural manifestations and round tables. In this context, he founded, by facing up to the colonial authorities, the Monastirian Student Association, where he displayed his full capacity in a militant action. At that time Mohamed Mzali was far from fancying that he would one day become the prime minister and secretary general of the party, he simply answered the call to duty and to his conscience. Once vested by Bourguiba in this high executive position he remained faithful to the principles which guided his life and his career. Working on an average of 12 hours per day, he has sacrificed his time and health in order to be equal to the confidence placed in him. He is, in my opinion, an example and a symbol for the youth of Tunisia.

How can democracy and the single party be reconciled?

Contrary to other countries who advocate a plurality of parties, in Tunisia we consider that the party cannot reflect the preoccupations of only a part of a class to the detriment of another, but it must embody the aspirations of all the people, and as such it is open to all social categories, all tendencies, and all potentialities. It progresses and renews itself in the conjunctural evolution in order to remain on the level of the preoccupations of the citizenry and the hopes of the young.

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CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

CHICKEN FARM CONTRACT--A contract for a chicken farm was awarded to a Dutch company. The chicken farm, a joint Arab venture, will be built in al-Qasim region in Saudi Arabia under the supervision of the Arab Company for cattle development (with headquarters in Damascus), and part of the Council for Arab Economic Unity. The farm will cost 30 million dollars, or 10% of the capital of the Arab Company. Twenty international companies submitted bids for this farm. The first phase of this project will include building a slaughterhouse, a hatchery, a chicken feed factory, and a factory to produce 6 million eggs annually for the Arab markets. The first phase will be completed in two years. However, it is expected that other contracts will be required to build housing for the workers and an electric power station before the completion of phase one. The work on this project began later than anticipated by the Arab Company. The farm was to be built in 'Inshas' in Egypt, but it was later decided to move it to Saudi Arabia following the Camp David accords. Another delay occurred when the Arab Company discovered that the tenders for the project were much higher than anticipated which led to a review of the project's plans. Another animal feed factory presently exists in al-Qasim region in Saudi Arabia. The other projects of the Arab Company include raising sheep and chicken in Syria, and an animal feed factory which is presently being built in Sudan. The aforesaid Dutch company also manages vegetable farms in Oman. [Text] [Sharjah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 Oct 80 p 10]

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

PRINTING HOUSE PROJECT--Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, President of the Republic and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, dedicated yesterday in San'a', the Northern part of the Nation, the printing house project of the Public Organization for Journalism and News. The cost of this project, which includes modern printing methods, reached ten million riyals, and is one of the projects of the first five years plan in the Northern part of the Nation. Brother Yahya al-'Arashi, Minister of Information and Culture in the Northern part of the Nation stated that this project is one of the most important achievements in the field of journalism and printing because it will change printing from a mechanical assembly system to a computer system in assembly and photography. [Text] [Aden OCTOBER 14 in Arabic 29 Sep 80 p 1]

CSO: 4802

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